Mac FORMAT ISSUE 206 April 2009

25 new things to do on your Mac today! ● Use Faces in iPhoto '09 ● Master the new iMovie '09 ● What next for Apple? ● Master iWork '09

Printed in the UK

Mac FORMAT

All your Apple needs

ISSUE 206 April 2009

DISCOVER HOW TO...

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- Store any file on an iPhone

AND MUCH MORE!

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Get iPhoto to find your friends

Master the new iMovie

Use the new effects and themes

New reviews this issue

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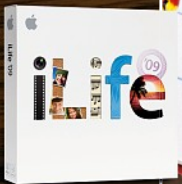
- Norton Internet Security
- iAntiVirus and more!



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INVESTIGATED

Inside Apple

Who takes over from Jobs?

TUTORIALS

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Pages, Numbers & Keynote

GROUP TEST

SENNHEISER

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- Write a novel with the full Avenir 2.3.7
- Play iConquer 1.5

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Welcome

This month I'm proud to announce that *MacFormat's* ABC (that's our monthly circulation figure) has grown by a very healthy 25% year-on-year to a whopping 29,447 issues, which further confirms our position as the UK's largest-selling Mac magazine. On behalf of the team here, I'd like to send out a big thank you to all our readers who have supported *MacFormat* throughout the year. We're really pleased that so many of you have voted with your feet to keep *MacFormat* in its number one position!

> "We're not resting on our laurels – 2009 is going to be a busy year for MacFormat "

We're not resting on our laurels, though – 2009 is going to be a busy year for *MacFormat*. As well as our regular monthly magazine we're also putting out a series of special issues under our *MacFormat presents…* banner. If you missed our last two specials, *The Essential iPhone Handbook* and *Switch to Mac!* (a guide to switching from Windows to Mac), they are still both available to buy in our online store at **www.myfavouritemagazines.co.uk/macformatpresents**.

Look out for our next special, too. *MacFormat Presents... The Essential iLife Handbook*, which is a complete guide to the new *iLife '09* suite of programs. It will be available to buy on the newsstand from 12 March, and will also appear for sale on the website listed above.

We always remember that, at the end of the day, we make *MacFormat* for you, so if there's something you would like to see more of in the magazine, then feel free to drop me an email. Otherwise, enjoy this issue and I'll see you again on 1 April (that's no joke!), when we'll be taking a closer look at *iTunes* and how to best use your Mac with your iPod and iPhone. Until then, all the best and thanks again.

email: graham.barlow@futurenet.com

All your Apple needs
MacFormat
DISCOVER HOW TO...
25 new things to do with your Mac
83 PAGES OF HELP & ADVICE
Use Faces in iPhoto
Master the new iMovie
New reviews this issue
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All your Apple needs

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What next for Apple?

Here's what 2009 will bring

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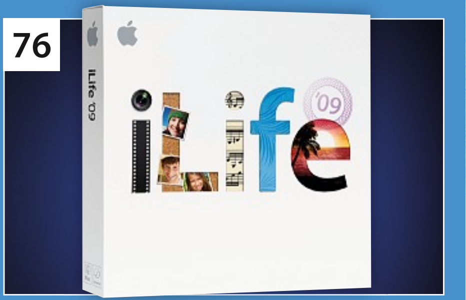
The best independent reviews



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A look at Black & White 2, City of Heroes and the latest iPod touch games reviewed!

Start up

With fingers firmly on the Mac's pulse,
MacFormat brings you all the best Apple chat

Apple's big plans for television

Apple TV seems set to be a serious business, as the experts explain

Has the Apple TV ever really been just a hobby? You could find out – if and when Apple plans an assault on the living room.

SNIPPETS

© Alan Luckow

Waltz with Wozniak

Apple co-founder Steve Wozniak will appear as a competitor in the new season of *Dancing with the Stars*, US television network ABC has announced. Speculation he will drive his Segway during the show already exists. Wozniak has also announced his role as chief scientist at Fusion-io, a startup that is developing new storage technologies based on *Flash*.

Apple executives call the Apple TV a hobby, but it appears they may hold big plans for the product, which saw sales triple year-on-year during the company's most recent financial quarter.

As the global migration to digital television gathers an impressive momentum, with audiences going online to services such as Hulu, iPlayer or *iTunes*, Piper Jaffray's Gene Munster now anticipates sales of 6.6 million Apple TV's by the end of this year.

Munster also expects a launch this year of brand-new Apple TV hardware equipped with a TV input and DVR functionality. Furthermore, he also anticipates an Apple-branded television set equipped with Apple TV-like features by 2011.

Munster explains: "We are expecting Apple to design a connected television over the next two years (launching in 2011) with DVR functionality built in. These recorded shows could then sync with Macs, iPhones and iPods over a wireless network. The device would push Apple further into the digital living room with interactive TV, music, movie and gaming features. With its *iTunes* ecosystem, Apple could develop a unique TV without any set-top boxes or devices attached."

> "The iPhone and iPod touch have already seen Apple develop closer relationships with games developers"

The proposition has numerous advantages. While sales of TV shows and films through *iTunes* could suffer a slight impact should the company implement DVR features in the product, the Apple TV might become the single solution that replaces your DVD player, cable box and games console.

Note that the iPhone and iPod touch, together with the App Store, have already seen Apple develop closer relationships with games publishers than ever before. Given that these partners are already now developing using the OS X-based iPhone SDK, it's no giant leap of fancy to confidently speculate on future full-strength games for the Mac from these games developers. Clearly, Apple TV could also benefit, should the company introduce an

SNOW LEOPARD DEVELOPMENTS

Apple continues development of the forthcoming Mac OS X 10.6 Snow Leopard operating system. This release will be leaner and faster, as well as offering a far more robust underlying infrastructure than the OS does at present.

The company has said the OS won't be feature-driven, but it will offer architectural improvements. These enhancements have been made in order to offer much-improved system performance, but it seems Apple is borrowing some ideas from its iPhone teams… Recently leaked information has claimed that the system will offer full support for MultiTouch on Macs equipped with the most recent trackpads. The OS is also expected to deliver location-based technologies, which developers can then harness to build location services into games and other software. The operating system will also include new technologies designed to harness the processing power of graphics processors for non-graphics use, and will implement new and advanced file systems and more.

Roxanne Sting
Tuner
Setup
Mixer
Change Lesson
Open in GarageBand
MacBook Pro

Beware, *GarageBand* **Learn to Play** requires an Intel-based Mac as Apple moves to support Intel Macs only in future software.

SDK for the existing or future generation of the device. The hard work of the Boxee team – who have developed a far more advanced home entertainment system for Apple TV – proves the existing system can already be extended.

"We would love to see Apple investing more resources in the living room," said Boxee CEO, Avner Ronen. "Whether these are new versions of the Apple TV, Mac mini or an actual network-connected TV, it will mean there are more devices in the living room that Boxee can run on. We also hope that Apple will open up Apple TV for the developers, so that Boxee (as well as other similar applications) could be easily installed."

Apple in numbers

9.93%

The percentage of computers online running Mac OS X

The introduction of an all-in-one Apple television system could become a market-leading system. Munster goes on to speculate: "Such a device would command a premium among a competitive field of budget TVs; we believe Apple could differentiate itself with software that makes home entertainment simple and solve a pain point for consumers (complicated TV and component systems)," he said.

"Apple has indicated that it only wants to participate in categories it feels it can make a difference (and win) in. And, like with the smartphone market, we believe connected TVs fit the company's criteria," he added.

Munster is not alone with this way of thinking. Bernstein analyst Toni Sacconaghi also thinks that Apple should transform its device into a cable box. A report on *Business Week* echoes these musings, observing: "There's a pent-up demand among a core group of early-adopting consumers to push their extensive video collections out of their computers and into their TVs."

Apple's recent $500 million five-year deal with LG Electronics may be worth keeping a close eye on. This ostensibly secures supplies of computer screens, but remember that LG also makes televisions. There is no reason not to believe that the company could even be Apple's secret partner in its future plans for its hobby product…

Apple COO Tim Cook recently commented: "We are going to continue to invest in [the Apple TV], because we fundamentally believe there is something there for us in the future."

With the US HDTV market predicted to reach ten million sets per year, any move to broaden the front-room offering to Apple's 65 million registered *iTunes* users has a strong chance. ●

DIALOGUE BOX

What they're saying about Apple

STEVE JOBS www.apple.com

"You can't just ask customers what they want and then try to give that to them. By the time you get it built, they'll want something new."

Steve Jobs explains the importance of getting ahead of market trends.

APPLE www.apple.com

"Wrapping up the new 17-inch MacBook Pro is taking a few days longer than we projected. As a result, we will be unable to ship your 17-inch MacBook Pro until February 19, 2009."

Apple tells thousands of customers they'll have to wait for their new Mac.

SHAW WU www.kbro.com

"We believe that having strong portables as well as desktops will help the Mac sustain its above-market rate growth rates and maintain its momentum in this tough macro-economic environment."

Analyst waxes positive for Apple in recession.

JEFF HOLDEN www.pelago.com

"Apple is leveraging every ounce of their marketing machine to train consumers that the phone is only as good as the applications available for it and to show off the amazing selection of offerings in the App Store."

iPhone app developer explains why Apple succeeds in selling software.

CHARLIE WALK www.epicrecords.com

"Whether the industry likes it or not, the *iTunes* chart showing the most popular songs in America is a major influencer of how kids today discover and communicate with their friends what kind of music they like."

Record label boss observes power of *iTunes*.

CHARLES SMULDERS www.gartner.com

"A growing trend toward 'consumerisation' in the workplace has seen more employees asking for the IT products they prefer, this has given rise to a greater number of Apple products being part of the enterprise ecosystem."

Leading analyst observes Apple's gentle gains in the US enterprise markets

Let us know if you've heard any good Apple quotes this month. Email them to **macformat@futurenet.com**

HOT

An iPhone nano, a pro model and a higher-memory verison in 2009
MF verdict: There will definitely be some sort of upgrade to the iPhone this year for sure.

New iMacs to receive both quad-core and dual-core configurations?
MF verdict: It wouldn't surprise us. Duel core processing is so 2008! Snow Leopard would support, too.

RUMOUR CONTROL

Our verdict on the month's Mac rumours

The Mac mini gets a long overdue upgrade
MF verdict: There were huge reports claiming the Mac mini would see an upgrade in January, but no joy yet for the low-end Mac.

Is Apple to launch its own music label?
MF verdict: This slice of hyperbole did the rounds last year, alleging Apple planned to launch its own label led by Jay-Z.

NOT

APPLE ON TV

Spotted…

Thanks this issue must go to *MacFormat* reader Russell Miller.

Eagle-eyed Russell spotted that the cream of British spies are choosing to use a Mac in the hit TV show, *Spooks*. "It's OK the nation's safe – our spooks are using Apple," Russell remarked.

Spotted an Apple product on TV? Email the details to **macformat@futurenet.com** with **Telly** as the subject.

PRODUCT NEWS

Kindle 2 debuts

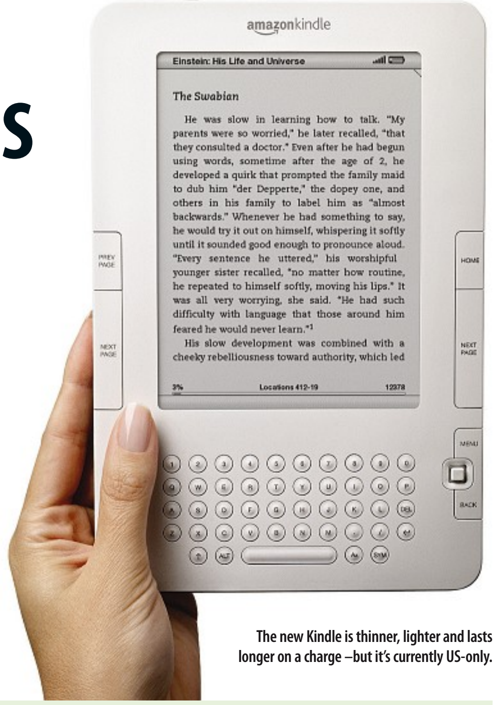
Second edition Kindle hints at iPhone

Amazon has introduced the latest version of its electronic book reader Kindle 2, in the US. The company also confirmed new Whispersync technology that will sync the device with "a range of mobile devices in the future," although it avoided implicit mention of the iPhone. The company confirmed international launches were planned, but didn't give details of when, or in which territories.

Amazon promises that the new $359 (£240) product, which has electronic-paper display technology, won't cause eye-strain when you read from its 6-inch display.

"Kindle 2 is everything customers tell us they love about the original, only thinner and faster with longer battery life, and it holds more books. It will even read to you," said Jeff Bezos, Amazon.com Founder and CEO.

More than 230,000 titles are available through Amazon's US-only Kindle Store. ●



The Swabian

He was slow in learning how to talk. "My parents were so worried," he later recalled, "that they consulted a doctor." Even after he had begun using words, sometime after the age of 2, he developed a quirk that prompted the family maid to dub him "der Depperte," the dopey one, and others in his family to label him as "almost backwards." Whenever he had something to say, he would try it out on himself, whispering it softly until it sounded good enough to pronounce aloud. "Every sentence he uttered," his worshipful younger sister recalled, "no matter how routine, he repeated to himself softly, moving his lips." It was all very worrying, she said. "He had such difficulty with language that those around him feared he would never learn."[1]

His slow development was combined with a cheeky rebelliousness toward authority, which led

The new Kindle is thinner, lighter and lasts longer on a charge –but it's currently US-only.

iTUNES NEWS

Apple drives big music bargain

Digital music critical to music sales, as iTunes power grows

Music lovers will now receive a better deal as *iTunes*' powers grow and the site offers DRM-free music.

In January, Apple announced music from all four majors would be available through its iTunes Plus service, which offers music in higher quality and free of DRM.

Since then, Apple's enhanced its offer to existing iTunes Store customers. When available in the Plus format, music bought in the previous format has been available to upgrade into the better format for a fee. This required upgrading all the music you have purchased at the same time, at great cost. But in February Apple relaxed this and you can now upgrade those tracks you choose, on an individual basis.

Achieving the deal wasn't easy. Apple CEO Steve Jobs spent a part of his Christmas Eve in negotiation with Sony Music chairman, Rolf Schmidt-Holtz – a talk the *New York Times* described as "tense and antagonistic". Sony, reluctant to drop DRM on *iTunes* purchases, finally succumbed.

iTunes has power, as illustrated by the success of bands who reached the *Billboard* Top 200 this January through iTunes promotions. *iTunes* faces competition from others, including Amazon and 7Digital.

Vivendi CEO, Jean-Bernard Levy observes: "We are doing well during what is a migration to a new business model. We know that it will be a business that is not focused on a single product."

On *iTunes*, he said, "I believe in the long run, the people tend to look at multiple stores to find what they want to buy." ●

THE BOXER REBELLION
UNION

Shrewd promotion through *iTunes* can make a huge difference when promoting a new band, as The Boxer Rebellion found out in January.

Apple's retail expansion slows as recession bites global markets

APPLE BUSINESS

Apple retail feels the pinch

Apple's first quarter results show dip in retail sales growth

Apple's not immune to the effects of global recession, but began the year in a strong position to weather the storm with a revenue of $10.17 billion.

The company stock remains buffeted by fallout from the investment quagmire depressing international markets and the ill health of CEO Steve Jobs. Despite this, Apple returned a record Q1 profit of $1.61 billion, selling 2,524,000 Macs, an astonishing 22,727,000 iPods and 4,363,000 iPhones. The latter's significant because it means the company has now captured in excess of 1.1% of global mobile phone sales.

Apple's products remain in vogue, attracting positive praise from most quarters with applications for the iPhone and iPod touch recently winning praise during this year's Independent Games Festival Mobile competition. However, despite the positive response, Apple's Q1 results showed a slowing of growth within its retail sector. Mac unit sales climbed 2.2 per cent, though Apple's retail arm saw only a 2.3% increase. It remained strong in the December quarter, representing 17.1% of total Apple revenues for the period – down 0.6% in comparison to the first quarter of the 2008 financial year. Per store revenue declined 17.4% year over year.

Needham & Co. analyst Charles Wolf notes: "Visitors per store fell a nominal 1.8%, but shoppers were not in the spending mood."

Despite the high-street challenge, Apple is resolute: "Given the retail conditions around us, our stores performed very well during the December quarter," said Apple CFO, Peter Oppenheimer.

Wolf believes more than 12 million Windows users have switched to the Mac since 2004, attracted by the retail stores and services including the Genius Bar. ●

Apple in numbers

13.7 million

Number of iPhones sold since the product launched in 2007.

SNIPPETS

XPress updated

The *QuarkXPress 8.02* update is available now. This update to the veteran desktop publishing suite offers improved installation and addresses various performance bugs. The software is available to existing customers for download and as a free 60-day test-drive.

QuarkXPress
8
QuarkXPress
Xperience Design

Catch a (Mac) thief

Orbicule's *Undercover 3* uses Skyhook Wireless technology to help recover your stolen Mac. It hides inside your Mac and can locate it within a range of 20-30 metres. And it will secretly make a photo of the person using your machine, so you can show the cops. Get it for $49 (£33) from www.orbicule.com.

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Is Apple's gaming future in your hands?

A new study sheds light on what gaming could mean for Apple

ACROSS THE POND...

A new study landed on my desk last month. The report from the research firm ComScore stated that 8.5 million Americans (2.8% of mobile subscribers) have downloaded games to their mobile phone and that iPhone owners accounted for 14% of those downloads. Overall, 32% of iPhone users have downloaded a game compared with a market average of 3.7%.

You don't have to be a genius to realise those are incredible numbers for a device that Apple never planned on pushing as a serious gaming handheld. An industry source I know who consults with Apple, recently told me the company originally estimated before the iPhone and iPod touch came out that gaming would make up less than 10% of App Store downloads in the first two years.

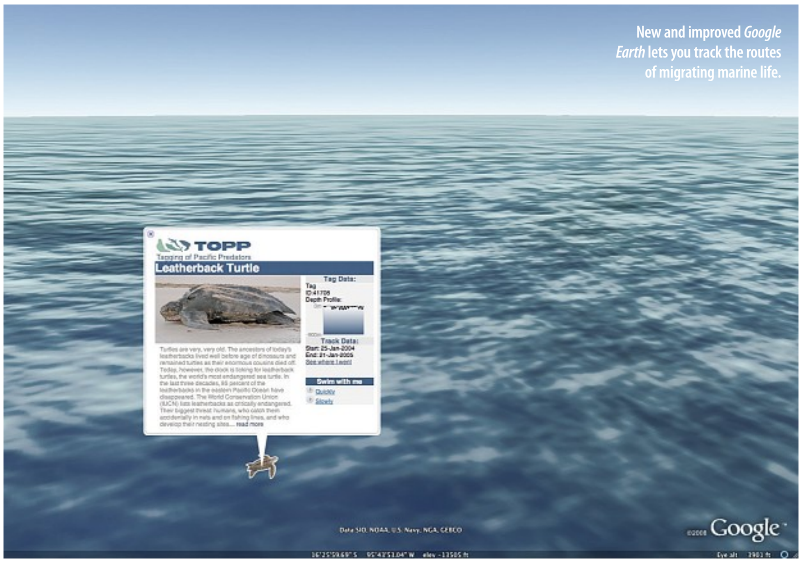
While the numbers might be surprising (especially this soon), the evidence shows the ingredients were always there as a recipe for success: superior graphics and speed equal to dedicated gaming devices, more than 4,000 games developed and available on the App Store in less than a year and, probably most importantly, games less than $10 with a huge amount costing no more than $5.

> "As the mobile phone, music player and handheld gaming device all begin to melt into one, the iPhone is perfectly poised to reap the benefits"

If I were Nintendo or Sony with their DS or PSP, I'd be worried. As the mobile phone, music player and handheld gaming device all begin to melt into one, the iPhone is perfectly poised to reap the benefits and probably more so for gaming than anyone thought. A few other important factors are in Apple's favour: cheaper-priced games versus pricey game cartridges for the DS and PSP and a simple and instant download system versus driving to the high-street retailer.

I have no evidence about Apple's future products, but is it reaching too far to predict a cheaper iPod touch that has a few game-related features and maybe some built-in games? It would be the perfect entry for Apple during bad economic times when cheap entertainment is gaining popularity. ●

Brad Gibson is the producer and host of the *MacFormat This Week* podcast. Download it via *iTunes* or from www.macformat.co.uk.



New and improved *Google Earth* lets you track the routes of migrating marine life.

GOOGLE NEWS

Google 4 Apple

Apple-focused software releases show that Google loves us

Google is developing free software and services for Apple users, including *Picasa*, *Google Earth 5* and a host of iPhone services.

The *Google Earth 5* beta continues to let users explore satellite, 3D building representations and map/terrain images, but adds the capacity to glimpse imagery of the ocean floor, where you can explore wave movements, whale migration routes and more.

Picasa, an image management and editing solution, is equipped with features including retouching and collage-creation, cropping and red-eye removal.

Despite promoting its own mobile OS, Android, Google continues to push iPhone frontiers, promising *Google Latitude* for the handset and iPod touch. This uses your GPS data so you can share your location with your friends. *Google Tasks* lets users add a tasks list within Gmail and *Google Book Search* lets UK users explore titles using their iPhone and *Safari* (**books.google.com/m**).

Rumours claiming Google plans a leap into cloud computing continue. The mooted GDrive service will let users upload data for access using a computer, browser or iPhone. Google has yet to confirm these claims. ●

Apple in numbers

46%

Percentage of Apple's last quarter revenue from international sales

STOCK WATCH

We keep our eyes peeled for Apple's market share

Clem Chambers is CEO of ADVFN, Europe's leading stocks and shares website. For free real-time share prices go to www.advfn.com

Since the autumn crash, Apple has been in a trading range of $80-$110. Considering the recession this is a stunning performance.

At its current $100 a share, its market valuation is $89 billion – about two-thirds of the mighty GE. GE makes jet engines, brain scanners, all kinds of white goods and sells $180 billion-worth of stuff; about six times Apple's sales. This suggests $1 of sales at Apple is worth $4 of activity at the US's most respected corporation. That's good going.

Buoyed by its recent financial quarter's performance, it's continued selling products successfully; only Steve Jobs's health and the world economic landscape cloud a perfect picture.

On the plus side the *iTunes*/iPhone product range is looking bulletproof. Wannabe emulators just aren't cutting it. However the notebook side looks vulnerable. The pricing on notebooks is heading down at an accelerating pace. How will Apple compete? And then, if the maestro does not return, can Apple really keep the magic going?

This is... computer warehouse

A time warp Computer Warehouse design from 1996...

"With a smile like this and prices to match - I honestly can't find a single catch!"

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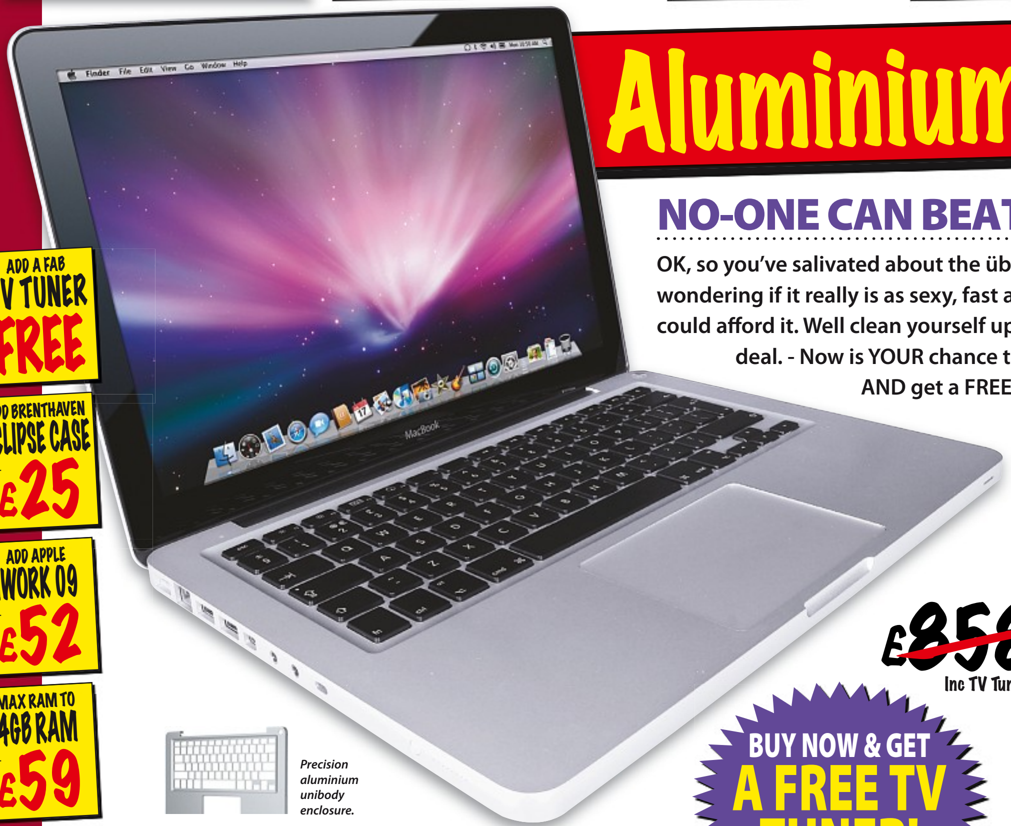

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Aluminium MacBook

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Win! a new MacBook with FileMaker!

A MacBook with FileMaker Pro 10 and Bento 2 must be won…

FileMaker Pro 10
FileMaker
Pro 10

Database software doesn't get any better than this. Whether you need to manage client information, track project details or produce inventory reports, *FileMaker Pro 10* helps get your important information organised. The user interface has undergone a complete overhaul for version 10, making it easier to use, more accessible and more powerful than before. Packed with features, it earned a well deserved five stars and a *MacFormat* Choice award last issue.

For the home user, *Bento 2* is a personal database that organises everything in your busy life, such as contacts, calendars, emails, events, files and photos, all in one place. This new version boasts several new features. You can link Apple *Mail* email messages directly to information stored in *Bento*, it's compatible with far more apps than the previous release, and it's even easier to customise and configure it to run exactly the way you want it to.

And there's no better machine to run them than on a new 13-inch MacBook. One lucky reader will win the two programs and an Apple laptop. Boasting a 2GHz Intel Core 2 Duo processor, 1GB RAM, an 800GB hard drive and an Intel GMA 950 graphics processor, it can run your FileMaker apps in style. Read more at **www.filemaker.com**.

THE QUESTION

To stand a chance of winning this great prize, just answer the following question correctly:

What score did *FileMaker Pro 10* receive in *MacFormat* issue 205?
A) One star
B) Three stars
C) The maximum five stars

HOW TO ENTER

- To enter, text FILEMAKER, followed by a space then your answer (A, B or C), space, then your name and address to 87474; or enter via our website at **www.macformat.co.uk** and click on the **Competition** link.
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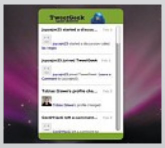
The wonderful world of widgets

We've played with the latest widgets… and put the top four on your disc

QuickCal

This is a really quick and easy way to create *iCal* events and reminders using your *Dashboard*. It also offers **Smart Reminders**, which create one or more reminders for you based on how distant an event is from the creation date.



TweetGeek Social Network

Whether you love it or loathe it, you can't deny that everyone's using *Twitter* right now. This nifty widget enables you to access your Twitter Geek Social Network page and upload new tweets as and when you wish to.

FishTank

For a long time aquariums have been a popular theme for screensavers. And now, all thanks to *FishTank* you can have one hidden away inside your *Dashboard*! The bubble sounds can be disabled leaving you free to enjoy the peaceful view.

Sunrise
Sunset
Home
Today

Sunset

As spring finally approaches *Sunset* should come in handy. It will help you calculate the sunrise and sunset times for each location in the world on each day of the year. Good for any upcoming holidays, business trips or even your fantasy getaways.

iPHONE NEWS

Flash for iPhone

Apple and Adobe collaborate to support Flash on the iPhone

Adobe continues work to bring *Flash* support to the iPhone, even as Apple ponders making it possible for some background processes to take place on the popular device.

Speaking to Bloomberg TV at last month's World Economic Forum in Davos, Adobe CEO Shantanu Narayen confirmed continued work on finally bringing *Flash* to the phone. "It's a hard technical challenge, and that's part of the reason Apple and Adobe are collaborating," he said. "The ball is in our court, the onus is on us to deliver."

Flash is a prevalent multimedia standard online support, which is installed on 98% of the world's PCs. There's a full-strength version of the standard, along with a mobile version, which Apple CEO Steve Jobs last year said isn't "capable enough to be used with the web."

Adobe is working with chip manufacturer, ARM, to deploy support for the standard on processors, including those the iPhone's based on.

"We believe *Flash* is synonymous with the internet experience, and we are committed to bringing it to the iPhone," Narayen said. ●

AT&T 3G
9:42 AM
Text
Calendar
Photos
Camera
YouTube
Stocks
Maps
Weather
Clock
Calculator
Notes
Settings
iTunes
App Store
Phone
Mail
Safari
iPod

The work continues to bring an acceptable level of *Flash* support over to the IPhone.

EVENTS DIARY

BOOM! FILMMAKING WORKSHOP
Various locations and dates
For filmmakers aged 16-25, these events teach students how to use Macs and *iLife* to make news reports and documentaries. More information at **http://boom.mtv.co.uk.**

MUSIKMESSE, FRANKFURT
1-4 April
If you're at all involved in professional music creation, production or recording, then this is a leading European event to find all the latest kit.

NAB
20-23 April
NAB attracts film and TV broadcasting professionals everywhere to its Las Vegas halls and hosts new Apple solutions for video, including *Final Cut*.

Do unto others as they would be done unto…

Why do ISPs dumb down when it comes to helping out?

CHRIS' COLUMN

Years ago, I went to see a motivational speaker. It was a mostly unmemorable event, which suggests the motivational speaker perhaps scored low on the motivational scale. One thing did stick, however: he took issue with the old "do unto others as you would have them do unto you" adage, replacing it with "do unto others as they would be done unto."

It seems like something you could dismiss as semantic pedantry. But the difference is profound; unless we're talking basic human rights and dignities, the way in which I like to be treated by people is likely not to match the way they would like to be treated.

It might be banal; my dad's name is David and he knew a guy who called him Dave. When my dad mentioned he preferred 'David', the guy was taken aback that my dad didn't see 'Dave' as being friendly.

A few months ago, the high-end internet provider Be invited me to try out its service. And last week I wanted to switch its router for my Netgear DG834N. I had lost the sheet of paper with my static IP details for the router, so I had to phone the tech-support line.

> "I'm forced to sit through a script that asks me if I made sure everything's plugged in and, have you tried to restart the device, sir?"

I always dread these calls. I'm forced to sit through a script that asks me if I made sure everything's plugged in, and, have you tried to restart the device, sir? Not so with Be. It's set up for geeks like me, and after verifying my details, the chap just provided what I wanted. Be is owned now by O2, which provides O2-branded internet access on the high street, and I would understand if the support offered to O2's customers specifically was more in tune with what less tech-savvy folks want; when my mum phones her ISP, I want it to help her discover the problem, but when I phone mine, I just want it to give me the information I want.

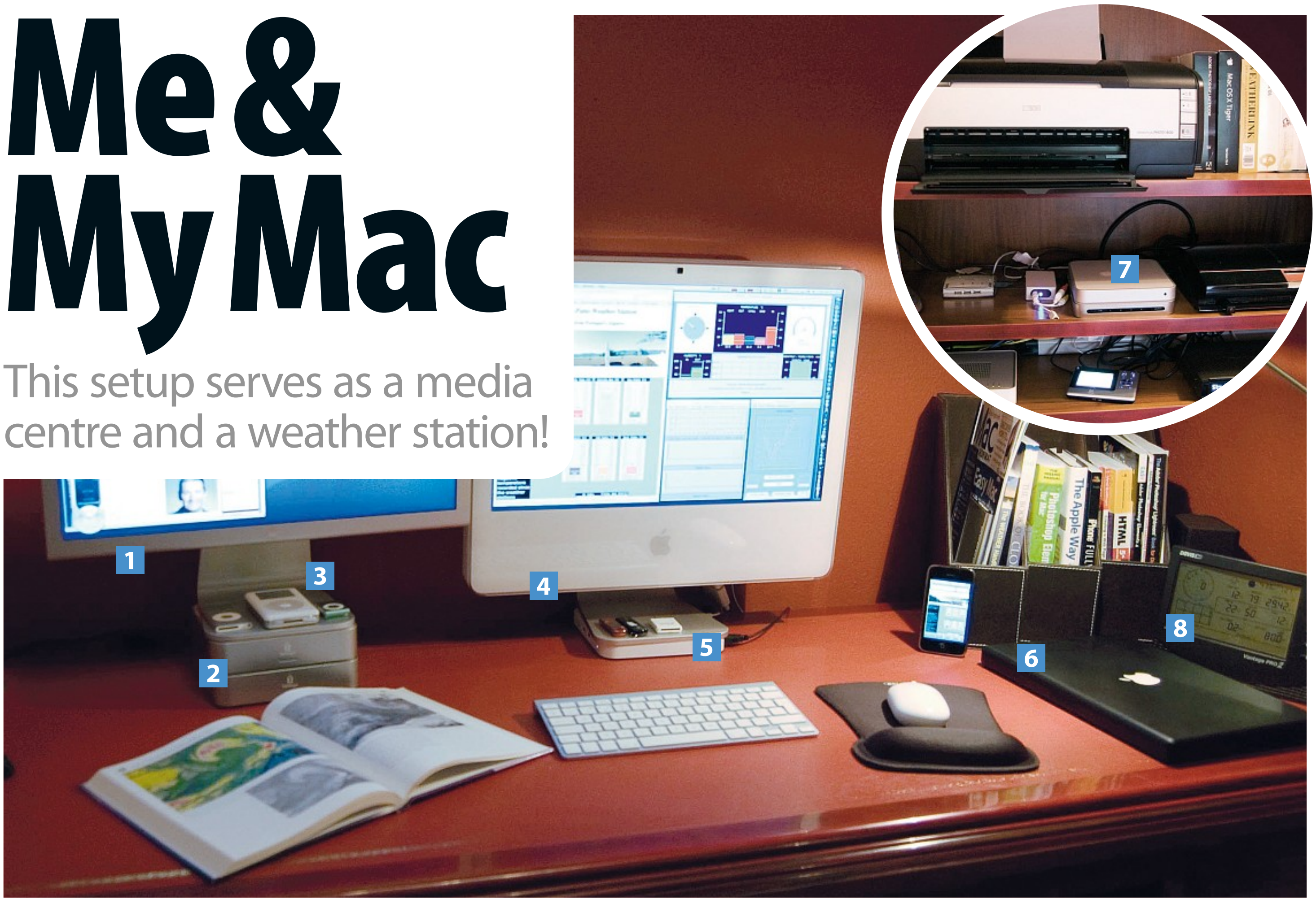
So here's my appeal to corporations of planet Earth: accommodate the different levels of technical skills in your callers, and train and trust your personnel sufficiently that they are able to go off-script.

And stop playing bloody Vivaldi. ●

Chris Phin is *MacFormat*'s Deputy Ed. He is currently broadening his musical horizons with Miley Cyrus and Gloria Estefan via *Spotify*.

Me & My Mac

This setup serves as a media centre and a weather station!



1 Apple 20-inch Cinema Display
Lucky Rick was bought this beauty for his birthday. He uses it with his iMac for dual-screen viewing.

2 Iomega MiniMax HD
Two MiniMax drives store all of Rick's files – and they prop the Cinema Display up to the right height.

3 iPod collection
Rick uses his nano with Nike + Sport Kit for running, his shuffle for cycling, and his Click Wheel iPod completes the collection.

4 Apple iMac 2.16GHz 20-inch
Another gift from his generous wife, the iMac is Rick's favourite piece of kit and is part of his weather station.

5 Apple AirPort Extreme
To stream music around the house, Rick has two AirPort Expresses and four AirPort Extremes.

6 Apple MacBook 2.0GHz Black
Although Rick has to use a PC for his work, he takes his MacBook along for emailing and web surfing.

7 Apple TV 160GB
Rick can watch and stream high-def TV and movies with his Apple TV and Elgato EyeTV 250 without leaving his armchair.

8 Davis Vantage Pro 2
This piece of kit works with the Davis *WeatherLink* software and iMac to record climate information.

Most people we feature in Me & My Mac talk about how they love the great *iLife* apps, but this issue we have a first. Rick Pullin uses his Mac as part of his weather station. Based in the Algarve, Rick records and displays climate information, including temperature, radiation, rain and wind. "The Algarve is interesting weather-wise, as it has quite wide extremes of temperature and humidity. It doesn't rain here often but when it does it can be torrential. I upload a 'live' weather report to a simple homepage using Davis *WeatherLink* software," Rick says.

Name:
Rick Pullin
Occupation:
Interior Designer
Been using a Mac for:
4 years
Favourite hardware:
iPhone, Apple TV
Favourite software:
Davis *WeatherLink*, *iTunes*

Rick previously used a PC to record the weather but was swayed to make the change when the Mac mini was released. "I started with an original Mac mini on the day it was released early in 2005. Around the time I'd been tempted to buy a small footprint PC to upload my weather station info to the net. I was already sick and tired of XP and when I saw the Mac mini pre-release announcement I was hooked. Fortunately there was a Mac version of the weather software I was using."

Luckily for Rick, his wife bought him a 20-inch Cinema Display for his birthday soon after his Mac mini purchase, so he could ditch the old PC's screen that he had been using. And after several hints, she bought him some more Apple kit for Christmas. "The wife came up trumps with an iMac 2.16GHz Intel Core 2 Duo. I'd given hints about the 20-inch version so I could put it alongside the Cinema Display for a dual-screen display."

> "Using Mac OS X makes me smile almost daily as a previously unseen or new feature crops up"

Although Rick begrudgingly uses a PC for his interior design business, a Mac is never far away. "I can't stand Windows – especially the annoying but essential virus protection that slows down work and keeps popping up with updates. I take my MacBook with me and use it for the web, email, photo work and anything else."

Rick admits that he couldn't be without his iPhone as it covers so many bases, but his favourite current piece of kit is his iMac. "It tends to be the centre of the whole experience, and using OS X makes me smile almost daily as a previously unseen or new feature crops up."

Rick isn't looking to extend his Apple collection just yet, but he could be tempted. "I don't crave for the latest MacBook or bigger cinema screen. The beauty of Apple products is that they're physically durable and have a style that doesn't age quickly. Strong Firmware updates continually expose or introduce great new features. When they bring out a touchscreen netbook, I'll be tempted." And so will we! ●

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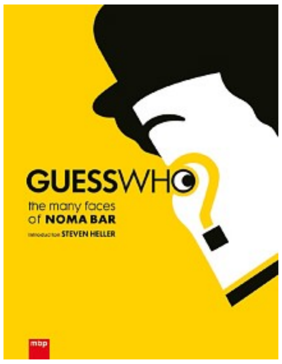

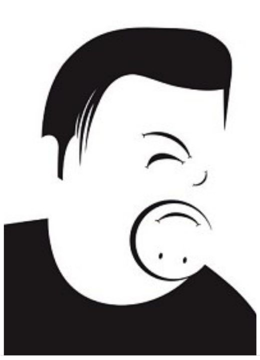

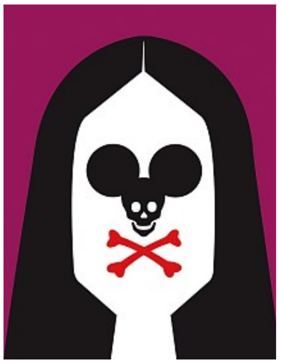

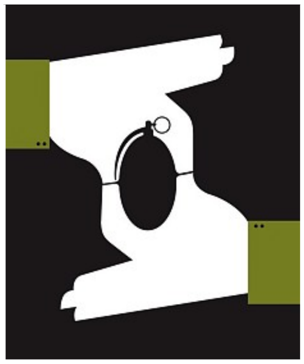

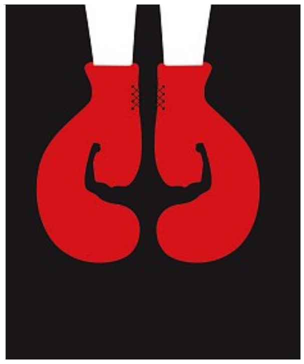

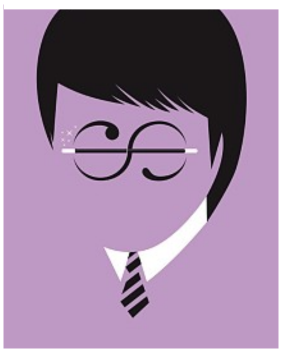

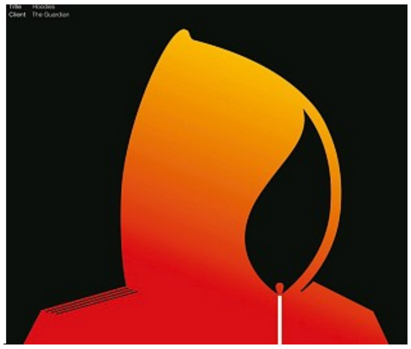

FAR LEFT: Bar's work typically uses few lines and objects, and associates them with a figure to create a powerful image. Despite the clean simple aesthetic, his portraits evolve from dozens of sketches.

LEFT: Bar's work has graced publications such as *The Guardian*, *Wallpaper**, *Time Out* and *Esquire*.

ABOVE: The work in his *Negative Spaces* book combines negative situations with his unique approach to illustration.

I use my Mac for... abstract illustration

We speak to Noma Bar about his abstract art

PROFILE

Name: Noma Bar
Location: London, UK
Occupation: Illustrator
System(s): iMac, MacBook Pro
URL: www.nomabar.com

MacFormat: What do you currently use Macs for?
Noma Bar: I'm a designer and illustrator, and I use my Mac and Wacom tablet to create my artwork. I use Freehand, because it's simple for creating vector drawings.

MF: What techniques do you use when illustrating?
NB: Every one of my illustrations starts in my sketchbook, and then I use my computer to execute my ideas. I like vectors as they are, and don't like to use any special effects.

MF: How did your unique portrait style evolve?
NB: It started back in Israel. During the first Gulf War I was sitting in a shelter with my family, reading the newspaper, and I happened across the black radioactivity symbol on a yellow background. As I was looking at it, I discovered two eyebrows and a moustache, and saw within it the image of Saddam Hussein. I sketched his silhouette around the symbol and found that it looked a lot like him. That Saddam illustration was one of the images I showed people when I moved to London and was contacting magazines and newspapers, looking for work.

MF: How do you come up with your ideas, such as the objects that define likenesses?
NB: Everything inspires me. I do a lot of drawings of faces and keep extending my visual vocabulary. When I come to a portrait, it's not as straightforward as it might look, and it takes time and dedication. It's easy to just copy someone's face, but sometimes I have hundreds of sketches, which could be one element from the face…

MF: Do you think your abstract illustrations say more about a person than a photograph?
NB: There are things that you can say with illustration that aren't possible with a photograph, and sometimes you can be more direct and pure when you go abstract.

MF: What are your future plans, and will your Mac be involved?
NB: I'm working on my exhibition at BAFTA, open from 18 February. Also, my new book, *Negative Space*, is coming out in April. This is a collection of positive observations of negative situations and my solutions to them. It also refers to the way I approach illustration, getting ideas from negative space, which is the artistic term for the space around an object or figure. In all cases, my Mac is there, allowing me to work at any place around the globe. ●

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Letters

Write in and let us know what you think about your Mac, MacFormat magazine and everything Apple

WRITE AND WIN!

MacFormat Star Letter prize
Email all your letters to us at **macformat@futurenet.co.uk** – if yours gets picked as the *MacFormat* Star Letter, you'll be sent an EyeTV Hybrid. It has analog and digital tuners, so you can use it to put TV on your Mac wherever you live!

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CLIPBOARD

"The letter last month about *iPlayer Grabber* was great, and now I can download and stream media to my main TV. Thanks for a great magazine and a great price when you subscribe."
Graham Hughes

"Thank you for the excellent live coverage you provided at the January Macworld Expo on your website. I think the interactive aspect brightened up this otherwise lacklustre keynote address. Your initiative showed how the Mac community is still a vital part of all things Apple"
Andy Hewitt

SWITCHER VIEWS

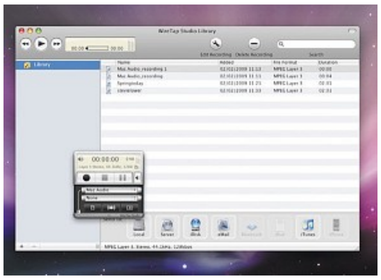
Firstly, let me say that I've had my iMac for almost a year. My wife bought it for me to shut me up and stop me dragging her around every Apple shop we happened upon, to constantly drool over the iMacs. I eventually got the 20-inch 2.4GHz with 500GB hard drive and added 2MB of memory myself. I, like many others that have changed to Mac from Windows, find the Mac great and spend a lot of time finding programs to easily do what we were able to on Windows.

After buying a few Mac mags I eventually decided that *MacFormat* gave me the best all-round blend of information and tutorials and, I have to say, I really like the magazine.

A problem I cannot get to the bottom of (and have seen no mention of in the magazine or letters or on the *MacFormat* forum) is the ability to record what you hear being played on the Mac, without the mic picking up any external noise that I make as well. I have tried a couple of programs, firstly *Audacity* and then *Wavepad*, both free apps and good programs. But if I make any sound it is picked up by the mic with an echo and low volume on playback. Any help with this would be greatly appreciated.

Please keep up the great content in the magazine and, if possible, help with the above.

Dave Pearce



WireTap Studio can record most things that are played on your Mac.

MacFormat replies: Thanks for the email, Dave, and we're glad you're enjoying *MacFormat*! Most Macs come with a built-in mic, so that you can video-chat using *iChat* without having to plug a headset and microphone into your Mac. This makes it great for video- and audio-chatting. However, it's not so much use if you want to record what's being played on your Mac, since any recording you do will also pick up any sound made around your Mac, and it won't be of high quality either.

The best solution is to use an application such as *WireTap* from Ambrosia Software (**www.ambrosiasw.com/utilities/wiretap/**). It does cost $69 (£46), but it enables you to record anything you can hear on your Mac directly from your Mac's soundcard, without any background noise.

WIRELESS GROUP TEST

I was reading your review of wireless keyboards and mice (Group Test,

★STAR LETTER | JAILBREAKING THE iPHONE

I jumped on the iPhone 3G bandwagon as soon as it came out. But after six months I am completely fed up with it and everyone raving about it. The list of things that a normal mobile can do make it look stupid.

I have a Sony Ericsson K530i, which can do video, send MMS and email, and I use software called *Bluephone Elite 2*, which lets me send and receive text messages via my Mac and use the Mac as a speakerphone. I was annoyed when I found out the iPhone does none of the above and that the Bluetooth in the iPhone is headset only.

However, I have found a walkthrough for jailbreaking the iPhone and I can now run more than one app at a time. I can now also do video, I can change my icons and backdrop (see attached photo) and I can drag and drop onto my iPhone like a pocket hard drive. I can also turn off Edge/3G/WiFi and I can copy and paste from the websites that don't crash. The only problem is Bluetooth for texts will never happen, which is a shame as the text function is poor.

I know jailbreaking voids the warranty but it makes the phone better. Apple needs to pull out its finger. Nokia, Sony and other mobile phone manufacturers need not sweat about the iPhone if Apple keeps holding it back, which is a real shame.

Graham Hughes

MacFormat replies: Circumventing Apple's restrictions to run third-party software (or jailbreaking as it is more commonly known) can unleash a world of new features on an iPhone, but it's not without its risks. As you've noted, Graham, it invalidates your warranty, so should something happen to your iPhone after you've jailbroken it, it won't be covered. More importantly it goes against the DMCA, the Digital Millennium Copyright Act, which criminalises the act of circumventing an access control in the US, which is why we don't cover or recommend this in *MacFormat*, in case you were wondering.

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Jailbreaking an iPhone can open the door to a world of applications, but it's not strictly legit.

MacFormat 204), and I noticed some things that you failed to point out. Number one was on the ease of connectivity – I believe that you downgraded the importance of losing a USB port for the mouse and keyboard. While it may be fine if you have a desktop with 4 USB ports, I own a MacBook, which boasts only two, and for owners of the Air, well, it could be quite a problem.

I got my MacBook for Christmas, as well as a wireless Mighty Mouse, which I like very much, because it doesn't take up that extra USB port. You did point out some problems with the Mighty Mouse, but I must say that I never encountered them. I love its sleek design (although I find the squeeze button slightly annoying; could they not have put two separate buttons there?), and have found the right and middle clicks easy to use. The lack of three buttons was always my bugbear with a Mac, and I am happy that they fixed it.

No, my problem with the Mighty Mouse was the inability to press two buttons at once, a major problem for me. True, in normal use you will have no need to do so, but when modelling or gaming, it is often necessary to do this. That is the only problem I found with my mouse.

Max Bucknell

MacFormat replies: Thanks for your feedback, Max. Obviously there are drawbacks with wireless mice – you need to replace the batteries periodically, for instance. But for some people, such as yourself, having one more free USB port, and lack of cable-snag is worth it.

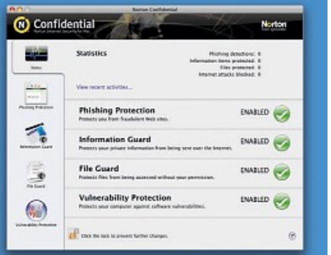
A wireless mouse frees you from cable-snag and also frees up a USB port.

EMAIL SECURITY AGAINST PHISHING

I think I have just been sent to a spoof PayPal website from my Safari browser. I was a bit lazy as I clicked the link that PayPal sent me instead of typing https://www.paypal.com/uk, which they recommended doing. I was, however, on the ball and I watched the URL change as it went online to 'http://www.paypal.co.uk/uk' and noted that https has now changed to http. I wrote to PayPay to tell them and am awaiting a response.

I have since read about how to spot fraudulent websites and phishing. There were links on how to protect yourself while online and Iconix email ID and eBay Toolbar and Account Guard were recommended. But neither work on a Mac, why? There are thousands of Mac users around as well as Windows users. Can you recommend any similar systems to protect us?

Andy Smith



Statistics

Phishing detections: 0
Information items protected: 0
Files protected: 0
Internet attacks blocked: 0

View recent activities...

Phishing Protection ENABLED
Protects you from fraudulent Web sites.

Information Guard ENABLED
Protects your private information from being sent over the Internet.

File Guard ENABLED
Protects files from being accessed without your permission.

Vulnerability Protection ENABLED
Protects your computer against software vulnerabilities.

Click the lock to prevent further changes.

Norton Internet Security will allay phishing fears.

MacFormat replies: There are anti-phishing tools for the Mac, products like *Intego Personal Antispam* and *Norton Internet Security 4.0 for Mac*, reviewed on page 83 this issue.

However, the simplest security measure is to never click on a link in an unsolicited email to a banking site or a site like PayPal or eBay. Also, the most recent version of *Safari* browser has some anti-phishing technology built in to warn you if you visit a known phishing site.

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Dad's movies
My music...

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MacFormat investigates

What next for Apple?

Words **Jonny Evans** Illustrations **Russell Tudor**

With Apple CEO Steve Jobs currently on a medical leave of absence, we take a look at what the future might hold for our favourite company…

Apple's leader and company co-founder, Steve Jobs, is an incredibly private person who seldom talks about himself and very rarely allows interviews to stray beyond the product he's there to discuss.

There's been no authorised biography of the man, leaving us in the dark as to the true nature of the technological revolutionary who has arguably been instrumental in transforming the way we live today.

Jobs co-founded Apple with Steve Wozniak in 1976 and introduced the planet to the world's first successful personal computers with the brand-new Apple series.

A visit to Xerox PARC in 1979 inspired Jobs to lead Apple to develop the graphical user interface, which was controlled by the now commonplace computer mouse. These technologies were apparent in the introduction of the Macintosh in 1984, which in conjunction with the first PostScript laser printer and desktop publishing application *PageMaker*, was responsible for the evolution of the desktop publishing industry.

> **"The Macintosh demonstrated that it was possible and profitable to create a machine to be used by millions and millions of people"**

"The Macintosh demonstrated that it was possible and profitable to create a machine to be used by millions and millions of people," Alex Soojung-Kim Pang, Research Director at the think-tank Institute for the Future told CNN.

Jobs has also been instrumental in the introduction of the iMac, iPod, *iTunes* and iPhone. Each one of which has disrupted existing industries and opened up new ones.

He remains reticent about himself. It appears he wants to be remembered not for his life, but for the products his philosophies have made possible. This passion for privacy has seen Jobs become synonymous with the company he helped create.

"Jobs really has changed the world," Peter Friess, President of California's Tech Museum of Innovation explained to CNN. "You hardly find people who changed cultures. He changed culture."

Cancer scare

Proving that rich and poor alike face outrageous fortune, Jobs underwent life-saving surgery for a rare form of pancreatic cancer in August 2004, nine months after he was diagnosed with the condition. When he delivered the keynote speech at the Worldwide Developers' Conference (WWDC) in 2008, his emaciated appearance led to speculation that his cancer had returned. In January this year, Jobs revealed himself that he had been suffering from a "hormone imbalance", which has been causing him to lose weight at an alarming rate, treatment for which requires him to take a medical leave of absence.

►

Steve Jobs may only be on a leave of absence, but already people are speculating about who will be the next public face of Apple.

Executive images courtesy of Apple

Bob

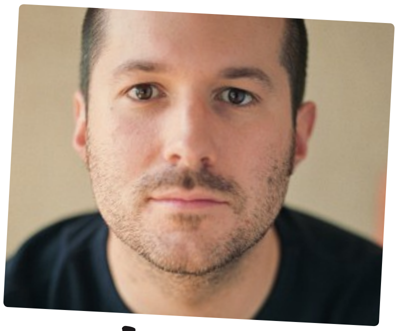
Peter

Daniel

Phil

Scott

Bertrand



Jonny

Sina

Ron

THE FACES OF APPLE

Bob Mansfield
Senior Vice President,
Mac Hardware Engineering

Mansfield joined Apple in 1999 and oversees the team that has delivered breakthrough Mac products including the MacBook Air and the iMac line.

Peter Oppenheimer
Senior Vice President and
Chief Financial Officer

With the company for 12 years, Oppenheimer handles all Apple's financial affairs, including recent SEC investigations into options reporting errors.

Daniel Cooperman
Senior Vice President,
General Counsel and Secretary

Cooperman joined Apple as its Chief Legal Officer in November 2007. A top-flight legal professional, he came from Oracle where he served as General Counsel for 11 years.

Philip W. Schiller
Senior Vice President of
Worldwide Product Marketing

Schiller has had 17 years at Apple in various marketing positions. Since rejoining Apple in April 97, he's helped launch all the breakthrough products.

Scott Forstall
Senior Vice President,
iPhone Software

One of the original architects of Mac OS X and its Aqua user interface. Forstall is also responsible for several releases of the Mac's operating system, most notably the latest, Mac OS X Leopard.

Bertrand Serlet
Senior Vice President of
Software Engineering

Serlet is a key player in the definition, development and creation of Mac OS X. He also spent four years working at the legendary Xerox PARC.

Jonathan Ive
Senior Vice President,
Industrial Design

London-born designer Ive leads the design teams. Apple kit feature in museums worldwide including MOMA in New York and the Pompidou in Paris.

Sina Tamaddon
Senior Vice President
of Applications

Also a NeXT veteran, Tamaddon has held numerous high-ranking positions and is responsible for the applications we use on a daily basis.

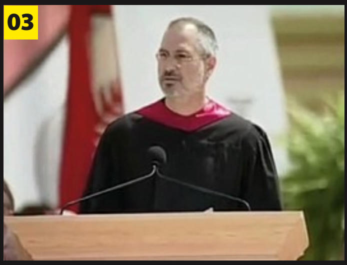
Ron Johnson
Senior Vice President
of Retail

Johnson has more than 20 years of experience in retail and merchandising. He leads Apple's retail strategy and is responsible for its continued expansion and performance, with a track record of success.

01

02

allesapple.at

03


04

05

A week later he told Apple employees, "During the past week I have learned that my health-related issues are more complex than I originally thought," adding: "In order to take myself out of the limelight and focus on my health, and to allow everyone at Apple to focus on delivering extraordinary products, I have decided to take a medical leave of absence until the end of June."

This message has generated more speculation his cancer may have returned. It also attracted attention from the US Securities and Exchange Commission, who are investigating the company to ensure investors aren't being misled as to the CEO's health.

"The good news flipped by the bad news makes one wonder what Apple knew," Duke University law professor James Cox told Bloomberg. "It's not surprising for the SEC to come in and look afterward, given the pressure and publicity regarding their handling of a lot of cases," he continues.

The issue is should Jobs (and Apple) be concealing information pertaining to the health of a public company's CEO – those who invest in the company have a right to know the truth? Jobs is seen by some investors as being worth $20 billion of Apple's market capitalisation. A value that's testament to his ability to identify needs, and create products to meet them. And a reflection of Apple's cult of secrecy, which directs attention toward the top executive, with the possible exception of the acclaimed skills of Senior Vice President of Industrial Design, Jonathan Ive, and his close-knit team.

> "There are some really capable people at Apple. My job is to make the whole executive team good enough to be successors, so that's what I do"

The upshot of this guarded corporate culture means Steve Jobs is identified as being synonymous with Apple, but the company's excellence in product design isn't his work alone.

Jobs's Apple

Jobs last year said, "I mean, some people say, 'Oh, God, if [Jobs] got run over by a bus, Apple would be in trouble.' And, you know, I think it wouldn't be a party, but there are really capable people at Apple. My job is to make the whole executive team good enough to be successors, so that's what I try to do".

This executive team must now prove themselves in Jobs's absence. "I have asked Tim Cook to be responsible for Apple's day-to-day operations, and I know he and the rest of the executive management team will do a great job," said Jobs. "As CEO, I plan to remain involved in major strategic decisions while I am out. Our board of directors fully supports this plan." Cook's a capable Operations Manager, but news of Jobs's absence sent Apple stock down 2.9%.

It also sparked a media circus. Apple's refusal to disclose further specifics of Jobs's illness has inflamed the hype, while a Bloomberg News reporter speaking to the CEO generated an angry response: "Why don't you guys leave me alone – why is this important?" he said.

Why? Because Jobs has been the main conduit for any major announcement for the last decade. Jeffrey Sonnenfeld, Associate Dean of the Yale University School of Management told Bloomberg. "Steve Jobs, Martha Stewart and Donald Trump have all made the boss the brand. The boss is the brand at Apple."

Since June 2008 news outlets have been festooned with reports exploring concerns about the CEO's health. July saw this reach the *New York Times* and *Wall Street Journal*, while Bloomberg in August accidentally published its obituary for Jobs, noting he, "helped make personal computers as easy to use as telephones."

Analysts and media have all chimed in with their thoughts on Jobs's temporary departure.

"I'd much rather have the great leader and deal with their transition out of the company, rather than have no great leader at all," said Piper Jaffray analyst, Gene Munster.

"Jobs being sidelined for six months and unavailable – with no clear successor – risks Apple's sustaining its record of innovation going forward," said Mike Abramsky at RBC. ▶

[01] A thin-looking Jobs meets with European Commissioner for Competition Neelie Kroes to discuss online commerce, principally Europe's position on territorial price difference for media sold online.

[02] It's 25 years since Steve Jobs introduced the Macintosh to the world, revolutionising personal computing, which became the Macintosh Plus two years later.

[03] "I have looked in the mirror every morning and asked myself: "If today were the last day of my life, would I want to do what I am about to do today?" And whenever the answer has been "No" for too many days in a row, I know I need to change something," Jobs told Stanford students in 2005.

[04] Apple co-founder Steve Wozniak remains friendly to Jobs, and an inveterate Mac user.

[05] Launched in 1998, the iMac was revolutionary because it changed the principles of computer design and offered built-in internet access.

WHO IS TIM COOK?

With Apple since 1998, Chief Operating Officer Tim Cook is a driven yet private individual, a workaholic who gets things done while chomping energy bars. Highly intelligent, the quietly-spoken 45-year-old's achievements include his late-90s streamlining of Apple's manufacturing operations, instrumental in making it profitable. The former Compaq and IBM executive possesses an analytical intelligence, but is just as demanding to work for as Jobs. "He's wickedly smart and doesn't have a big ego," John Landforce, who has worked extensively with Cook, told the *Wall Street Journal*. Cook's committed to Apple, resisting offers to take CEO roles elsewhere, although he does sit on Nike's board. He's been Jobs's right-hand man for years, and is seen by analysts and industry as capable of leading the company in Jobs's absence. Speaking last year, Jobs praised Cook for doing a "brilliant" job running Apple's Mac division.

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9:42 AM
Text
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Camera
YouTube
Stocks
Maps
Weather
Clock
Calculator
Notes
Settings
iTunes
Phone
Mail
Safari
iPod

[ABOVE] 2009 could see a series of upgrades hit our shelves. This might see a new and improved version of the Mac mini, which has been long overdue a rehaul. As for the iPhone, a low-cost version might be imminent in the iPhone nano.

The future

What will Apple do if illness means Jobs is unable to return to active service? Is Cook Apple's succession plan? Can he fill the space Jobs leaves behind? Ashok Kumar, Senior Research Analyst at Collins Stewart believes company executives are likely to work as a team. Cook will manage operations with others handling product development, design and marketing, while Jobs makes strategic decisions from his sick-bed.

Kumar's vision sees the team, which includes Senior VP Worldwide Product Marketing, Phil Schiller, Ive, Senior Vice President Software Engineering, Bertrand Serlet, Chief Financial Officer, Peter Oppenheimer, and five more, who are temporarily filling Jobs's boots by committee. Wozniak told US TV network, NBC, that the impact of the temporary loss of the CEO could be limited, observing that product development cycles traditionally extend across two or more years, so plans "aren't going to be disturbed" by Jobs's absence from the day-to-day business at Apple.

Despite the risk, Apple's in a very strong position as it enters this transition, Mac sales climbed 9% for record profit in the last quarter. iPod sales exceeded 22 million and 4,363,000 iPhone's were sold.

So, what product launches and transitions might the Apple executives handle in the absence of "the boss"? The list could include:

Snow Leopard The next iteration of OS X will introduce new features, such as Open CL. It will furnish a stripped-down architecture that will take up less hard-drive space while delivering better performance in contrast to the current OS. Typically, Apple releases OS upgrades in its second or third quarter, with a glimpse of development expected at June's Worldwide Developer's Conference, if the OS has not shipped before.

Quad-core iMac, Mac Pro for Nehalem Intel launched its Core i7 processor last year, which is expected to appear in a future generation Mac Pro. The chip manufacturer has also developed low-power quad-core Core 2 chips, which are expected to debut in a future revision of the iMac.

Mac mini The Mac mini is definitely due an upgrade. Sundry reports predict a March release of the new version of the product, anticipated to offer faster processors and a powerful NVIDIA Ion graphics processor.

iPhone nano RBC analyst Mike Abramsky believes Apple will introduce a lower-cost, lesser-featured iPhone this summer. This purported device will be sold in both pre-pay and low-cost plans and be made available through multiple carriers. However, Cook warned against this, saying: "We're not going to play in the low-end voice business… our goal is not to be the unit share leader in the phone industry. It is to build the best phone."

Apple's netbook Claims Apple is developing a low-cost Mac netbook or Mac tablet have been in circulation for months, but speaking in January, Cook said, "We've got some ideas, but right now we think the products there are inferior and will not provide the experience to customers that they're happy with." In October 2008, Jobs said Apple couldn't produce a notebook in the netbook price range that wasn't a "piece of junk".

Apple's executives will also have to continue to support the company's innovation-led culture. They will also have to manage ongoing product development in its existing range, and any top-secret projects that may be in process, including development of new processors by the team the company last year recruited with its purchase of PA Semi.

If Jobs cannot return to Apple – a real possibility given his late January admission that his health problems are more serious than he originally thought, and a Bloomberg report suggesting he may even need to undergo a liver transplant in order to get better, then company-watchers will be anxious Apple avoids repeating the John Sculley story.

Jobs charmed Sculley to lead Apple in 1983. The former Pepsi executive later ousted Jobs from the company he co-founded, and put the firm on a downward trajectory, delivering a confusing number of Mac models and falling profits.

"John Sculley ruined Apple and he ruined it by bringing a set of values to the top of Apple that were corrupt and corrupted some of the top people who were there, drove out some of the ones who were not corruptible, and brought in more corrupt ones and paid themselves collectively tens of millions of dollars and cared more about their own glory and wealth than they did about what built Apple in the first place – which was making great computers for people to use," Jobs said in 1995.

Sculley's successors fared little better. Apple's recovery didn't really begin until the return of Jobs following Apple's purchase of his second computer company, NeXT.

> "Because this is our life. Life is brief, and then you die. And we've all chosen to do this with our lives. So it better be damn good. It better be worth it"

The true leader

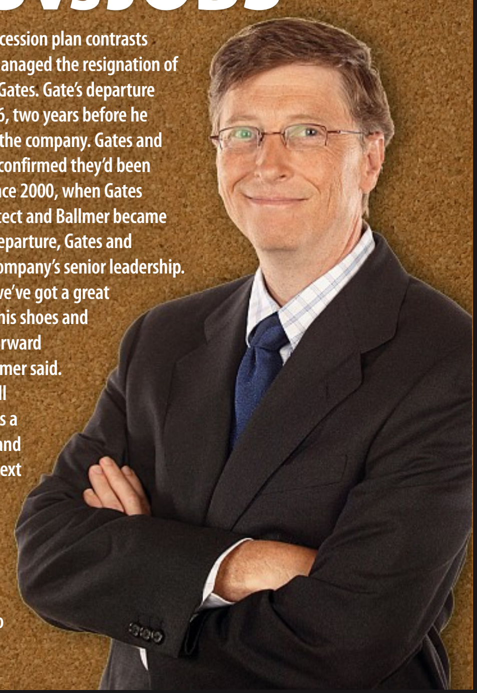
That Apple's history has seen the company at its most successful only under Jobs's leadership, and his perception as being the company, it's no surprise Jobs is perceived as the only man who can run the company.

Should Jobs recover, expect a wave of innovation. Wozniak notes that the six-month break could benefit Apple. "What do you do when you rest? Sometimes your mind floats. A person like him is probably going to work out better concepts and products," he said.

Steve Jobs has given his all to Apple. His desire to be re-elected to the Disney board represents some hope that Jobs expects to recover.

"We don't get a chance to do that many things, and every one should be really excellent," he said to Stanford University students. "Because this is our life. Life is brief, and then you die And we've all chosen to do this with our lives. So it better be damn good. It better be worth it," he urged. That much Jobs has already achieved. ●

GATES vs JOBS



Apple's seeming lack of a succession plan contrasts poorly with how Microsoft managed the resignation of emblematic co-founder, Bill Gates. Gate's departure was announced in June, 2006, two years before he ceased working full time for the company. Gates and company CEO Steve Ballmer confirmed they'd been working on the transition since 2000, when Gates became chief software architect and Ballmer became CEO. In preparation for the departure, Gates and Ballmer had expanded the company's senior leadership.

"Bill and I are confident we've got a great team that can step up to fill his shoes and drive Microsoft innovation forward without missing a beat," Ballmer said.

"A two-year transition will ensure that the company has a smooth transfer of strategy and knowledge from Bill to the next generation of leaders," said Microsoft board member, James Cash.

Apple appears to have been forced into a less effective reflexive strategy to cope with the illness of Jobs.

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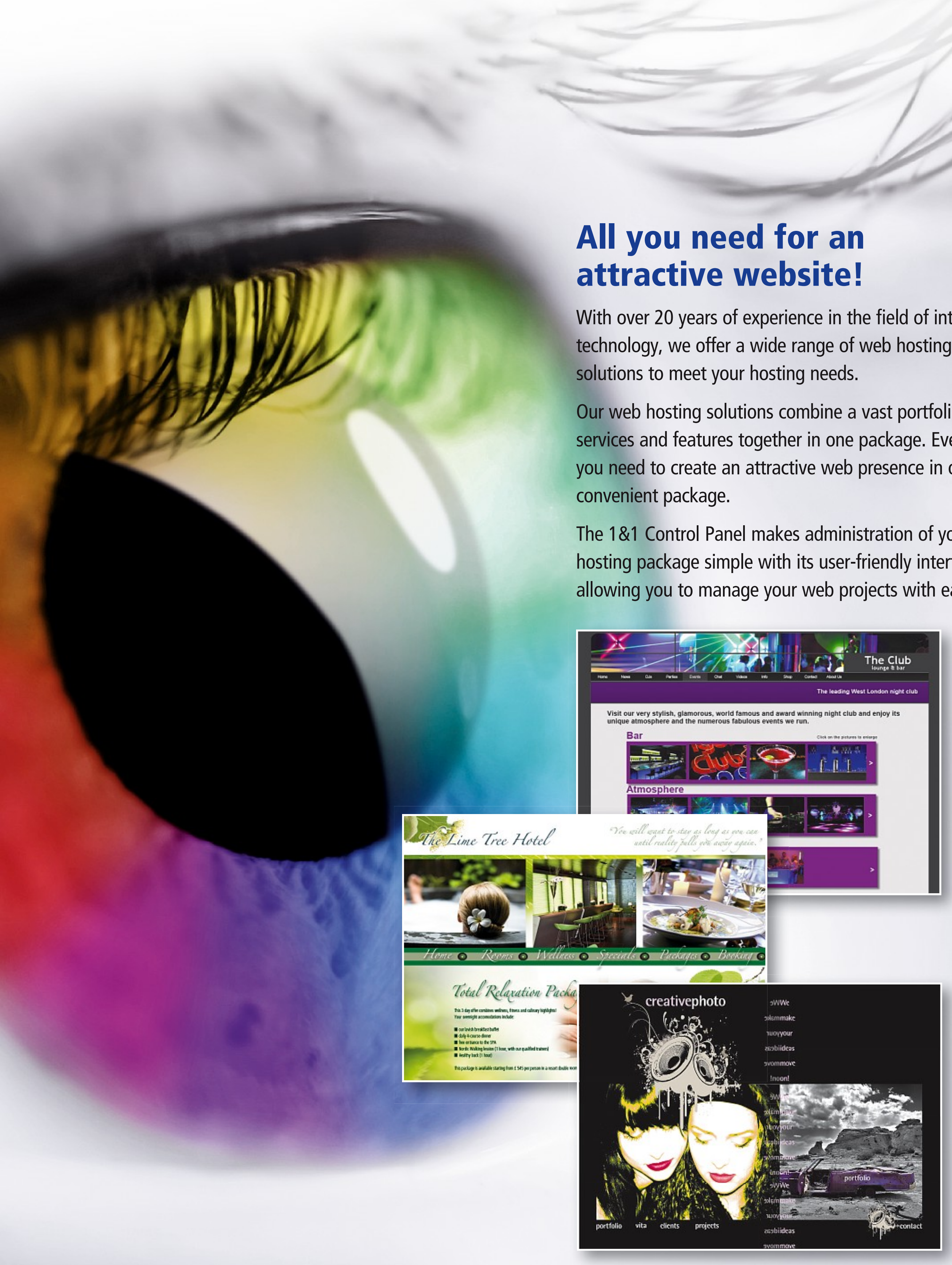
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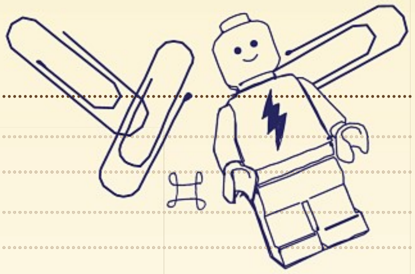
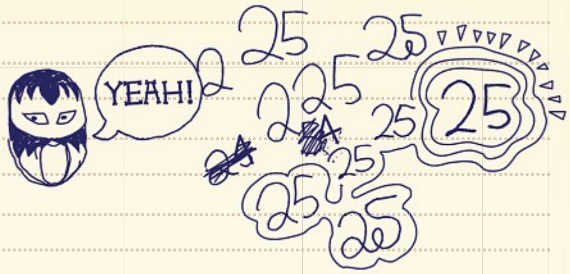




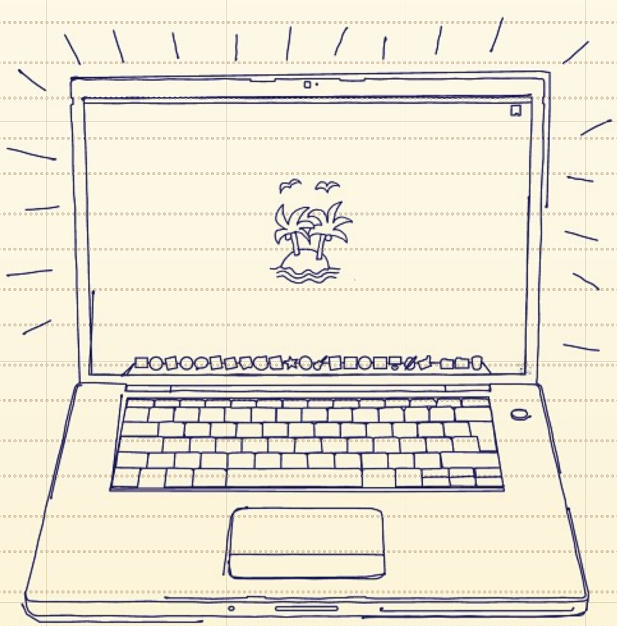
Mac FORMAT On the disc

Find accompanying software on this issue's disc.

25 NEW things to do with your Mac

Words **Hollin Jones** Illustrations **Sophie Henson**

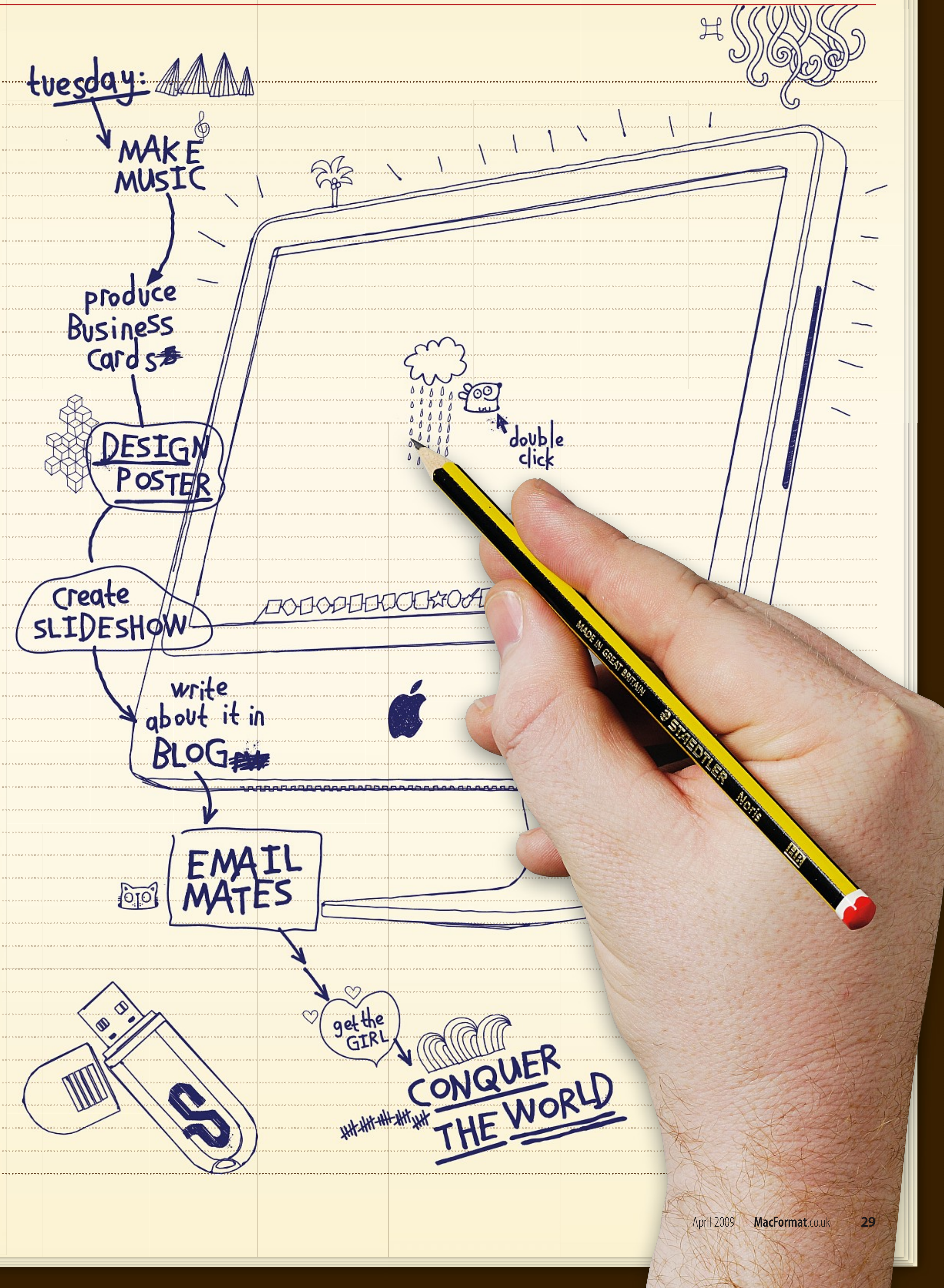
It's time to get more creative with your Mac. Try designing websites and CD labels with these fun new ideas today!



The Mac has historically been the computer of choice for creative professionals the world over, and that's no coincidence. When designing the first Mac operating systems to feature a graphical user interface, Apple put usability and creativity at the heart of its approach. These were machines for creating things, not just working with sterile spreadsheets. Many of the world's leading creative applications like *Photoshop* started life on the Mac because it was the professional's choice.

This ethos continues today, and if anything there's now even more you can do on your Mac, thanks to the excellent *iLife* suite and the many free or inexpensive third-party applications that use the slick and efficient interface of OS X to make it easy to be creative. Of course, the computing power in even an entry-level new Mac is almost infinitely greater than the models that just a couple of decades ago were running the print industry or powering professional recording studios. Even a Mac mini is a powerhouse of creative possibilities, with OS X and its applications letting you make music, create podcasts, design posters, build websites or become a digital DJ. And that's just a few things you can do with practice.

So if your beloved Mac is currently sitting in a corner just performing web and email duties, you're missing out on a whole world of creativity. Read on to find out how you can do more with your Mac… ►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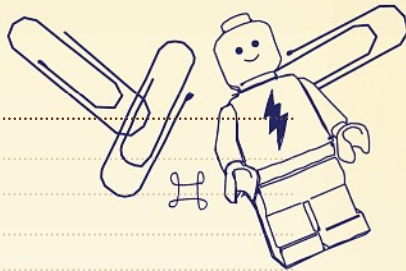
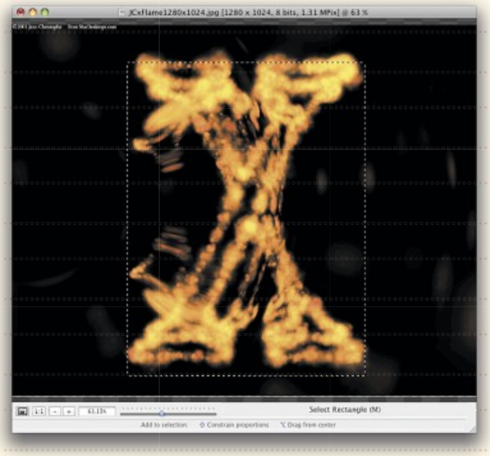


Do more with... Words & pictures

The Mac is ideal for graphics and publishing, so get in on the act with these apps

Design a poster

Whether you're having a birthday party, putting on a concert or advertising items for sale, there are times when a well-designed and personalised poster is a must. You need something that can deal with photographic images, vectors and text and manipulate them all in layers. *Chocoflop* (**www.chocoflop.com**) is currently free and works in a similar way to the much more expensive Adobe *Photoshop*. You can take existing images from your *iPhoto* library or other sources and manipulate them in interesting ways, blending layers together and adding text and effects. Work with the elements of your image composition until the layout is correct and then print it, save it as a flattened image for emailing, or as a PDF for download. You can save the source file as well so it's easy to go back to the editable version at any time and change it.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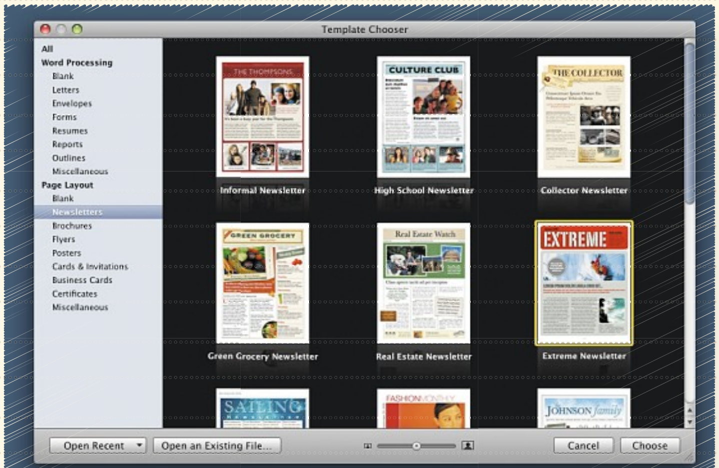
Get powerful image editing and layout tools at your fingertips with *Chocoflop*, which is great for designing posters or other visual projects.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Outlines
Miscellaneous
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High School Newsletter
Collector Newsletter
Green Grocery Newsletter
Real Estate Newsletter
Extreme Newsletter
Open Recent
Open an Existing File...
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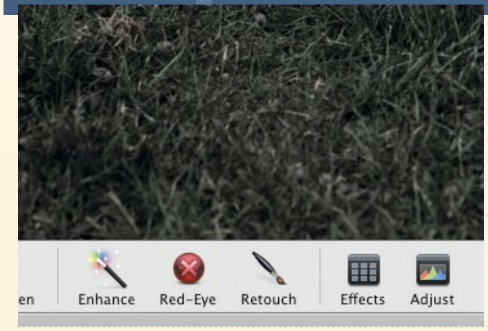
Choose

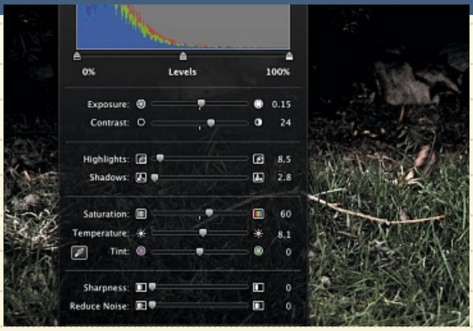
Make a newsletter

Many people are involved in clubs, societies or projects that require regular newsletters. Apple's own *Pages* word processing and layout software is adept at this, even coming with a selection of ready-made newsletter templates that you can modify. Its graphics tools make it possible to be more creative with overlaying and formatting text together with images so you can make more professional-looking newsletters. Another great tool is *Swift Publisher*, $45 (£31) from **www.belightsoft.com**. This has powerful and extensive tools for image and text manipulation but at a fraction of the cost of top-flight software, and comes with professional templates. Once you have created one newsletter, you can use it as a template for subsequent issues.

STEP BY STEP Improve your photos using iPhoto's editing tools

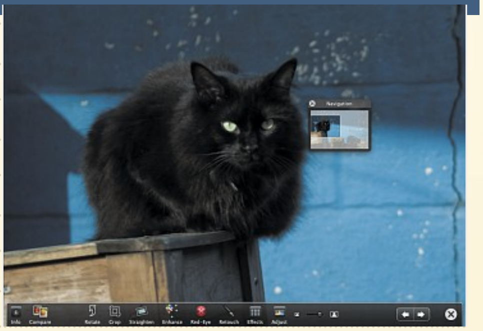

en
Enhance
Red-Eye
Retouch
Effects
Adjust

01 The most common problems with digital pictures are under or overexposure. Double-click on an image and hit **Edit**. Use the full screen button if you like, which helps you to see the image free of any interference from other screen elements. Then hit the **Adjust** button to show the control panel.


0%
Levels
100%

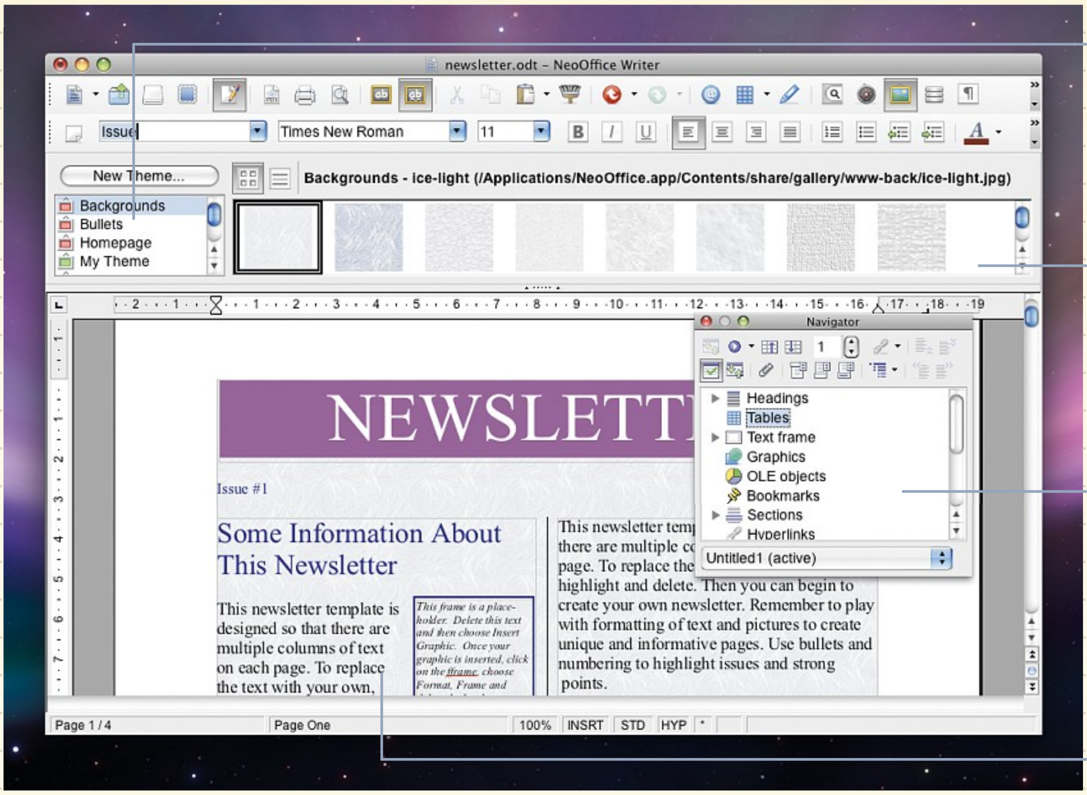
Exposure: 0.15
Contrast: 24
Highlights: 8.5
Shadows: 2.8
Saturation: 60
Temperature: 8.1
Tint: 0
Sharpness: 0
Reduce Noise: 0

02 Use the control sliders to bring the exposure and contrast up or down to make the image appear brighter if it's too dull, or more muted if it is overexposed. The **Saturation**, **Temperature** and **Tint** sliders control the overall tone of the colour in the image.



03 Go full screen on an image and use the **Zoom** slider to identify any problem areas like dust on the lens, or unwanted elements in a picture. Use the **Retouch** or **Enhance** tools to draw these out or smooth them over, or the **Red-Eye** tool to get rid of the red-eye reflection problem when people look at a camera as it flashes. ●

TOP FEATURES | Designing a newsletter in NeoOffice Writer


newsletter.odt – NeoOffice Writer
Issue
Times New Roman
11
New Theme...
Backgrounds
Bullets
Homepage
My Theme
Navigator
Headings
Tables
Text frame
Graphics
OLE objects
Bookmarks
Sections
Hyperlinks
Untitled1 (active)
Page 1 / 4
Page One
100%
INSRT
STD
HYP

Backgrounds - ice-light (/Applications/NeoOffice.app/Contents/share/gallery/www-back/ice-light.jpg)

NEWSLETT

Issue #1

Some Information About This Newsletter

This newsletter template is designed so that there are multiple columns of text on each page. To replace the text with your own,

This frame is a place-holder. Delete this text and then choose Insert Graphic. Once your graphic is inserted, click on the frame, choose Format, Frame and

This newsletter temp… there are multiple c… page. To replace the… highlight and delete. Then you can begin to create your own newsletter. Remember to play with formatting of text and pictures to create unique and informative pages. Use bullets and numbering to highlight issues and strong points.

Ready-made themes

NeoOffice is free and comes with tons of professional design and layout elements for you to incorporate into your stationery, business cards or letters.

Backgrounds

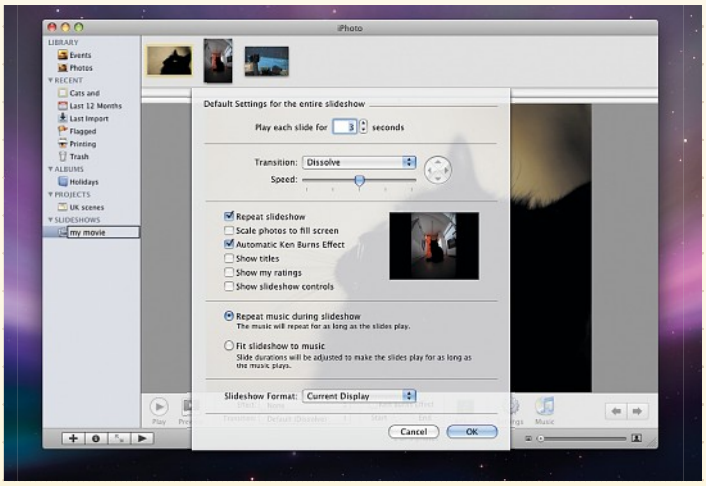
Black text on white can look fairly dull so experiment with a splash of colour, use textured backgrounds and more attractive fonts.

Advanced tools

NeoOffice has tools for working with complex layouts, tables and data as well as graphics. It supports web links and can save HTML documents.

Use templates

Templates are a good way to get started quickly. Double-click in the boxes to change the text and its size and colour as well if you like.


iPhoto
LIBRARY
Events
Photos
RECENT
Cats and
Last 12 Months
Last Import
Flagged
Printing
Trash
ALBUMS
Holidays
PROJECTS
UK scenes
SLIDESHOWS
my movie
Play
Settings
Music
Cancel
OK

Default Settings for the entire slideshow

Play each slide for 3 seconds

Transition: Dissolve

Speed:

☑ Repeat slideshow
☐ Scale photos to fill screen
☑ Automatic Ken Burns Effect
☐ Show titles
☐ Show my ratings
☐ Show slideshow controls

● Repeat music during slideshow
The music will repeat for as long as the slides play.

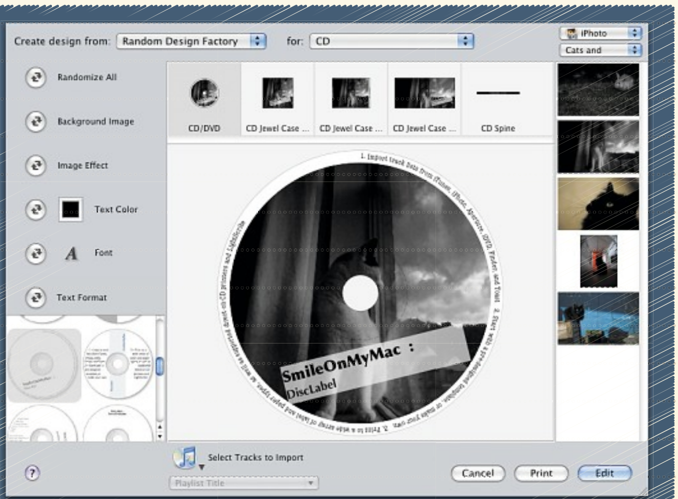
○ Fit slideshow to music
Slide durations will be adjusted to make the slides play for as long as the music plays.

Slideshow Format: Current Display

Make a slideshow movie

iPhoto can export high quality movie slideshows of your images, plus music and special transition effects.

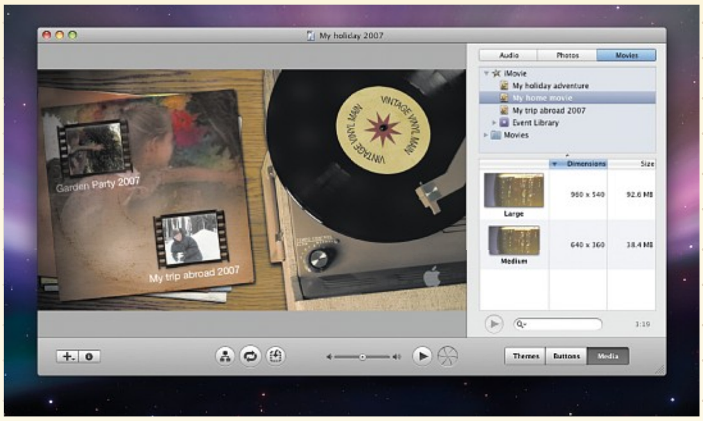
iPhoto can also export in movie format. Create a new album and drag images into it. Select the album and hit the + button. From the menu, choose **Slideshow** and **Use Selected Items**. In **Slideshow** view you can re-order images by dragging them around from the list at the top. Press **Settings** to set the duration of each slide, transition type and speed as well as use the **Ken Burns** effect and choose music. Preview it with **Preview** or **Play** and when you're happy, choose File > Export and pick a movie size. 640x480 is best for full quality, and 320x240 for email or the web.


Randomize All
Background Image
Image Effect
Text Color
Font
Text Format
CD/DVD
CD Jewel Case ...
CD Jewel Case ...
CD Jewel Case ...
CD Spine
iPhoto
Cats and
SmileOnMyMac
DiscLabel
Select Tracks to Import
Playlist Title
Cancel
Print
Edit

Create design from: Random Design Factory for: CD

Design your own CD labels

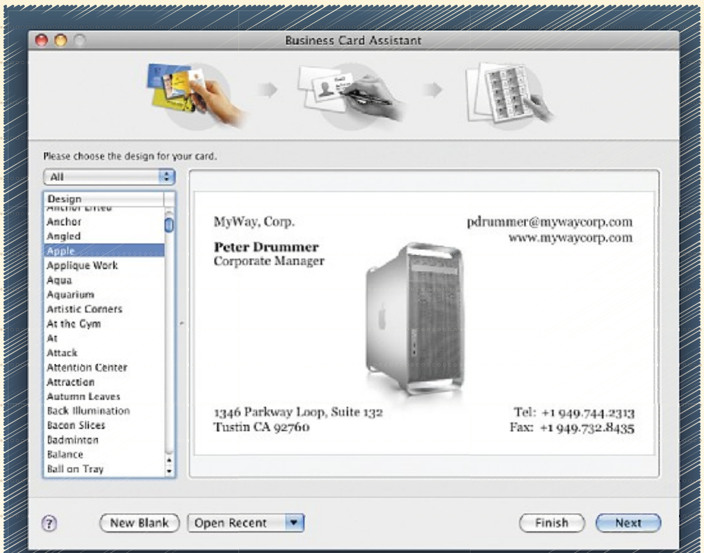
Macs have come with CD and DVD burners for years, and although many people burn discs of their music or movies, not everyone labels them. Adding your own labels can make a disc look more professional or simply more personalised. *DiscLabel* (**www.smileonmymac.com**) is relatively inexpensive and is able to import track lists from the *iLife* applications as well as *Finder* and *Toast*. It provides templates and lets you use your own images as well as the supplied clip art and then modify and edit images and text. When you're done you can print to a range of different label and paper types, and it's even compatible with some direct-to-CD printing systems. The interface is very Mac-like and easy to use, and it allows you to work with specialised design elements like circular text to fit with the shape of the disc.


My holiday 2007
Garden Party 2007
My trip abroad 2007
VINTAGE VINYL MAN
Audio
Photos
Movies
iMovie
My holiday adventure
My home movie
My trip abroad 2007
Event Library
Movies
Dimensions
Size
960 x 540
92.6 MB
Large
640 x 360
38.4 MB
Medium
Themes
Buttons
Media

Compile your videos onto a DVD

Export movies or drop them into *iDVD* so that you can send them to friends and family.

Apple's *iMovie* software makes it easy to create your own professional-looking videos with voiceover and music. When you're done movie-making, you can transfer the project, or indeed multiple movies, onto a DVD to give to family and friends. If you're using *iMovie '08/'09*, select **Share** and then send the movie to *iDVD*. If your movies exist in a folder on your Mac, you can start a new *iDVD* project and then drag them into the project. *iDVD* lets you use its **Media** section to access your *iPhoto*, *iTunes* and movie libraries and drag your own content in to personalise the backgrounds of your DVD menus and the music that plays along with them. Preview the disc and when you're happy with it, select File > Burn and create as many copies of your great DVD project as you like.


Business Card Assistant
Please choose the design for your card.
All
Design
Anchor
Angled
Apple
Applique Work
Aqua
Aquarium
Artistic Corners
At the Gym
At
Attack
Attention Center
Attraction
Autumn Leaves
Back Illumination
Bacon Slices
Badminton
Balance
Ball on Tray
New Blank
Open Recent
Finish
Next

MyWay, Corp.
Peter Drummer
Corporate Manager
pdrummer@mywaycorp.com
www.mywaycorp.com
1346 Parkway Loop, Suite 132
Tustin CA 92760
Tel: +1 949.744.2313
Fax: +1 949.732.8435

Design business cards

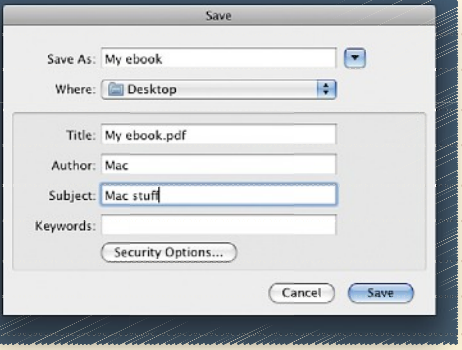
Having an impressive and professional-looking business card is a must for many people, especially nowadays when we all have more than one phone number and email address. Commercial printing can be expensive but you can use something like *Business Card Composer* ($35 (£25) from **www.belightsoft.com**) to achieve the same thing. The software hooks into your *iPhoto* library and also comes with tons of clip art images and over 100 image masks for making more interesting designs. It can also read your *Address Book* entries and import and format the data for any person. There's a three-step assistant within the app to get you started quickly, and there's support for double-sided card printing. As a bonus, it also has templates for CD and DVD inlay cards, which is handy for making a professional showreel to give out with your business card.

Create an ebook

If you have written a series of articles or put together a body of work for a portfolio or an exhibition, you might want to bring it all together into a single document that can be easily distributed and opened by lots of people. The simplest way to do this, regardless of your content, is to create an ebook. Ebooks are really nothing more complicated than PDF files, properly formatted. If you have the budget you could look at Adobe's *Acrobat* application, which has long been the standard for PDF creation and manipulation, though it has many features that the casual user won't need.

It's worth knowing that in OS X you can create a PDF from pretty much any print dialog. From *Pages*, *Word*, *TextEdit* or other word processing or layout applications, if you hit **Print** you will see a PDF options box. This provides you with multiple PDF creation options like simply creating a PDF, compressing and mailing it, encrypting it and creating a booklet which uses double-page spreads. Encrypting PDFs is a good idea for protecting information or perhaps when selling your creations.

To combine multiple existing PDFs into one large document, investigate *Combine PDFs*, €20 (£18) from **www.monkeybreadsoftware.de**.


Save
Security Options...
Cancel
Save

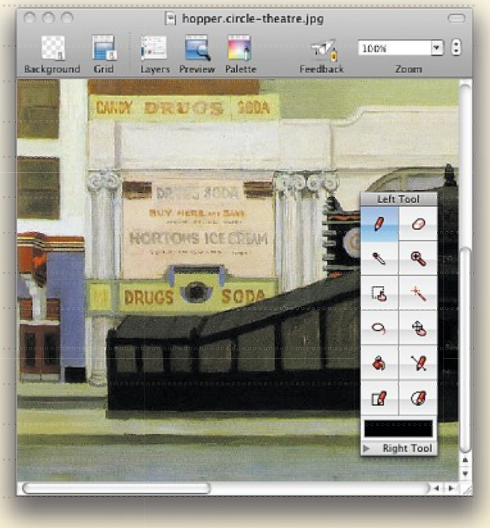
Save As: My ebook
Where: Desktop
Title: My ebook.pdf
Author: Mac
Subject: Mac stuff
Keywords:

Ebooks are, simply, properly formatted PDFs put together to make a electronic book which can be viewed on any platform.

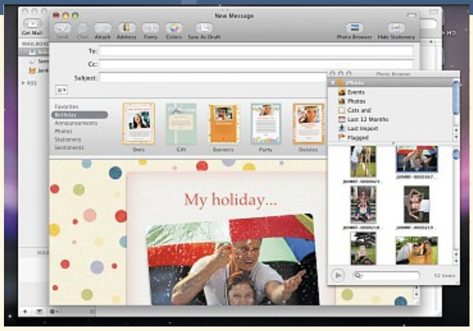
Make your own graphics

Pixel is a free, open source vector graphics package that lets you work in detail with icons, character design and animations.

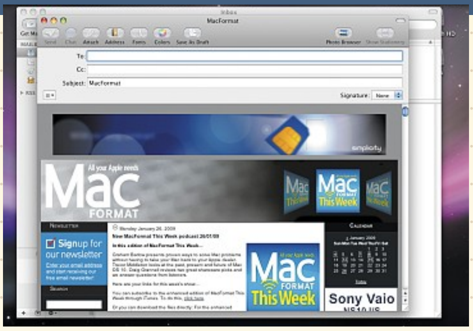
Budding graphic artists are no longer forced to choose between the paintbrush or expensive, commercial software. *Pixel* (**http://opensword.org/Pixen/**) is a free pixel-based graphic editor that's designed for those who like to work on vector graphics for games, icons or other design purposes. Not only does it let you work with multiple layers and advanced tools, but it also supports extensive file formats commonly found in the graphics world. In addition, it lets you create animations, GIFs or *QuickTime* movies of your projects and also has settings for those working on mobile games, where colour palettes are restricted. This kind of software is quite specialised, so to find a free version like this is a real bonus for graphic artists or those wanting to try their hand at icon or character design.


hopper.circle-theatre.jpg
Background
Grid
Layers
Preview
Palette
Feedback
100%
Zoom
Left Tool
Right Tool

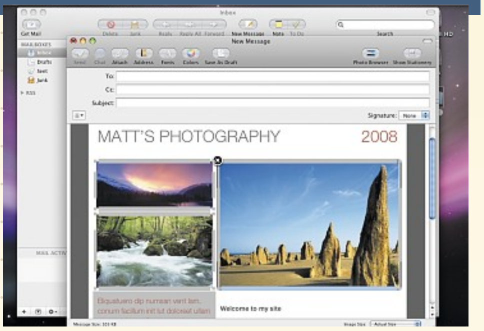
STEP BY STEP Three easy ways of sending more colourful emails


New Message
My holiday...

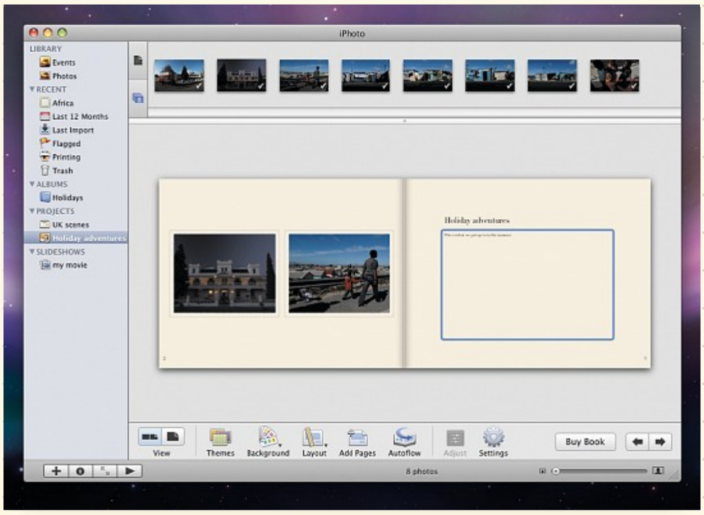
01 Leopard *Mail* has a **Stationery** option which creates HTML mail. Open a new message then click **Show Stationery**. Click on the **Photo Browser** button to reveal your image library and drag in any images to replace the standard ones. Double-click in any text field to replace the default text. The message will be sent as complex HTML.


MacFormat
Mac FORMAT
Signup for our newsletter
Mac FORMAT This Week
Sony Vaio

02 *Safari* has an interesting feature that lets you mail an entire working web page. When you're on a website, choose File > Mail Contents of this Page, and the whole page, complete with working links and pictures, will be placed into a new *Mail* message. The recipient of the mail will see it just as it appears in *Safari*.


New Message
MATT'S PHOTOGRAPHY
2008
Welcome to my site

03 Create your own HTML page in *iWeb* or a similar web design program and save it as an HTML document. Then open that document in *Safari* and choose Edit > Select All. Go back to *Mail*, create a new message and select Edit > Paste. The contents of the HTML message will then be pasted in to the mail and you can send it. ●


iPhoto
LIBRARY
Events
Photos
RECENT
Africa
Last 12 Months
Last Import
Flagged
Printing
Trash
ALBUMS
Holidays
PROJECTS
UK scenes
Holiday adventures
SLIDESHOWS
my movie
Holiday adventures
View
Themes
Background
Layout
Add Pages
Autoflow
Adjust
Settings
Buy Book
8 photos

In iPhoto you can create photo books, calendars, greetings cards and postcards from your own photos and have Apple print them professionally.

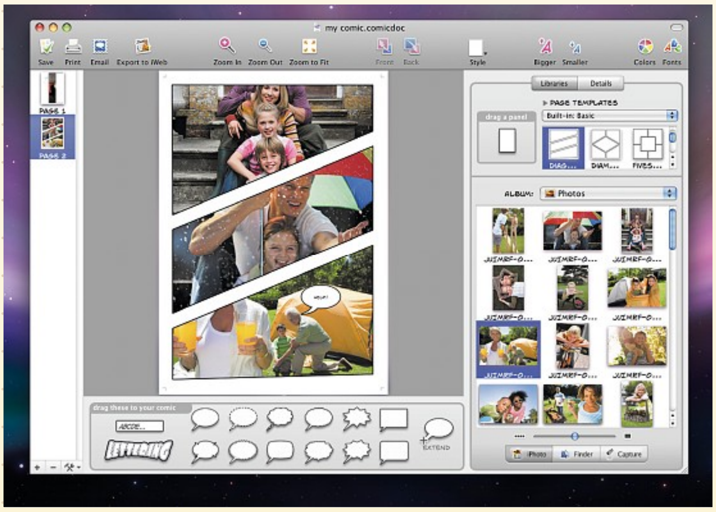
Create photo books

We all have photo collections, but why restrict yourself to viewing them on your Mac, or being printed out on a basic printer? In *iPhoto*, as well as ordering individual prints of your photos you can create and order photo books online, which are professionally printed and posted out to you. Click the + icon at the bottom left of *iPhoto's* screen to get started. When you choose to create a new book, you get extensive options to customise the design and layout. You can even choose hard cover, soft cover or wire bound books and there are many themes to select. When you have created your book and added all the text, images and layouts you like, hit the **Buy** button and the whole thing is submitted online for printing and production. Prices are reasonable (**www.apple.com/uk/ilife/iphoto/print-products.html**) and you can also create calendars, greetings cards and postcards, all professionally printed from your images. It's a great idea for a gift or as a memento of a trip.

Design comic strips

Creating comics has traditionally been the preserve of very skilled graphic artists. With the immensely amusing *Comic Life* ($25 (£18), **http://plasq.com/comiclife**), you can use your own images to build up comic strips quickly and easily, adding graphic elements and layouts straight from the supplied libraries. It's tremendous fun and you'll be amazed at how quickly you can put together a professional-looking comic strip, whether it's for commercial reasons or just as a bit of fun to send around to friends and family. When you have created your multi-page comic books, you can export the results to an email or to *iWeb* and, of course, print them directly from the application. The built-in fonts and graphics like speech and thought bubbles are suitably styled to fit in with the look and feel of comics, so you'll have great fun experimenting with them. Be warned, though: you could while away several hours with this application!

Comic Life is a fun app that helps you create great-looking comic books.

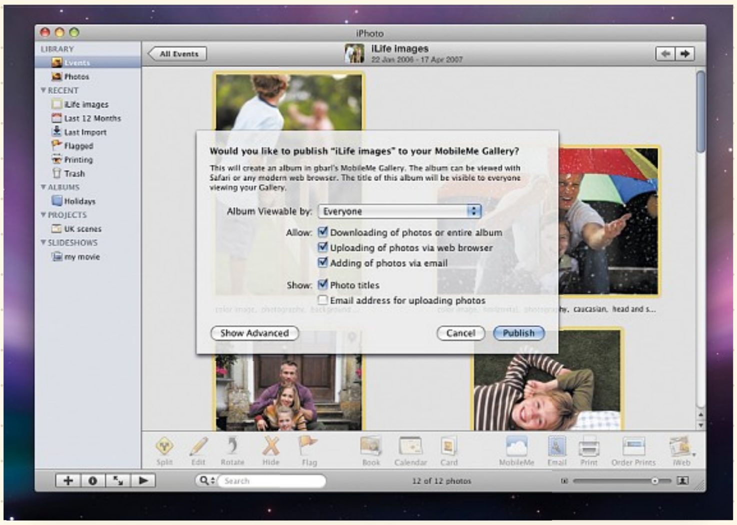

my comic.comicdoc
Save
Print
Email
Export to iWeb
Zoom In
Zoom Out
Zoom to Fit
Style
Bigger
Smaller
Colors
Fonts
PAGE 1
PAGE 2
Libraries
Details
PAGE TEMPLATES
Built-in: Basic
ALBUM:
Photos
LETTERING
Photo
Finder
Capture

Do more with... Internet & online

We spend so much time online, so why not use that time to be more creative?

Create online galleries

Mac OS X and the *iLife* applications are designed to integrate with MobileMe, Apple's online service. If you have a MobileMe account, you will be able to upload galleries from *iPhoto* and *iMovie* straight to your account. The clever part is that the applications give you useful options prior to upload about how you want the galleries to be shared. For example, you can restrict access to a password system, make content protected or available for download, and create different versions of pictures and videos at different resolutions for people on slower networks. When you upload anything, the software takes care of all of this and produces a slick, beautifully laid out online gallery for you. You can then email the gallery's URL to anyone you want to see it. It's a great way to either share your media or run a professional video or photography service.



Would you like to publish "iLife images" to your MobileMe Gallery?

This will create an album in gbarl's MobileMe Gallery. The album can be viewed with Safari or any modern web browser. The title of this album will be visible to everyone viewing your Gallery.

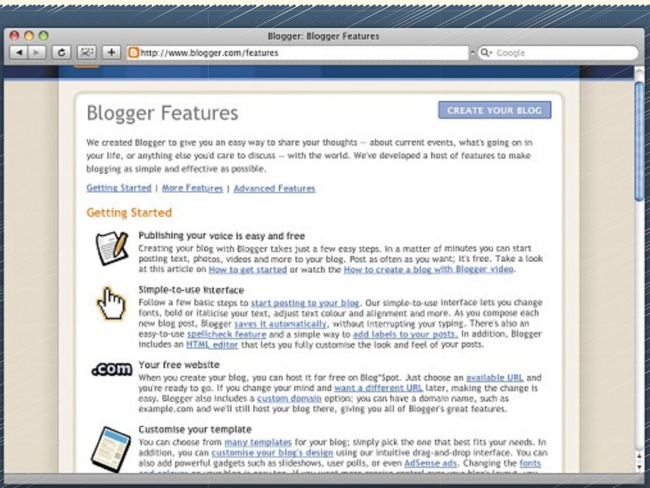
Album Viewable by: Everyone

Allow: ☑ Downloading of photos or entire album
☑ Uploading of photos via web browser
☑ Adding of photos via email

Show: ☑ Photo titles
☐ Email address for uploading photos

Show Advanced | Cancel | Publish

From both *iPhoto* and *iMovie* you can upload photos and movies to your MobileMe account and create slick looking web galleries.



Blogger Features

We created Blogger to give you an easy way to share your thoughts – about current events, what's going on in your life, or anything else you'd care to discuss – with the world. We've developed a host of features to make blogging as simple and effective as possible.

Getting Started | More Features | Advanced Features

Getting Started

Publishing your voice is easy and free
Creating your blog with Blogger takes just a few easy steps. In a matter of minutes you can start posting text, photos, videos and more to your blog. Post as often as you want; it's free. Take a look at this article on How to get started or watch the How to create a blog with Blogger video.

Simple-to-use interface
Follow a few basic steps to start posting to your blog. Our simple-to-use interface lets you change fonts, bold or italicise your text, adjust text colour and alignment and more. As you compose each new blog post, Blogger saves it automatically, without interrupting your typing. There's also an easy-to-use spellcheck feature and a simple way to add labels to your posts. In addition, Blogger includes an HTML editor that lets you fully customise the look and feel of your posts.

Your free website
When you create your blog, you can host it for free on Blog*Spot. Just choose an available URL and you're ready to go. If you change your mind and want a different URL later, making the change is easy. Blogger also includes a custom domain option; you can have a domain name, such as example.com and we'll still host your blog there, giving you all of Blogger's great features.

Customise your template
You can choose from many templates for your blog; simply pick the one that best fits your needs. In addition, you can customise your blog's design using our intuitive drag-and-drop interface. You can also add powerful gadgets such as slideshows, user polls, or even AdSense ads. Changing the fonts

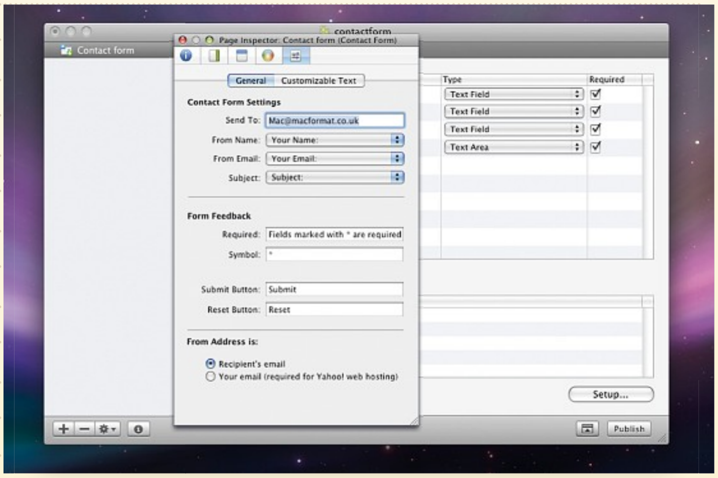
Start a blog today

Blogging is an incredibly popular online activity, with millions of people worldwide sharing their thoughts, opinions and experiences with the world through their online journals. The best thing is that they can be completely anonymous if you like. Blogger.com is the most widely used site, and wordpress.org isn't too far behind. Google provides a Blogger widget for Mac OS X that lets you post directly to your blog without logging in manually or using a browser. *WordPress* (**http://wordpress.org/**) also provides a free iPhone and iPod touch application to let you post to and edit your blogs from the devices. Blogging services such as these let you upload pictures and videos so it's easy to create a media-rich online experience for your readers, and it's all free. Head over to **www.blogger.com** to get started today!

Make a great website

Building your own site gives you full control over how it looks and who hosts it. Apple's *iWeb* integrates with the other *iLife* apps and MobileMe, putting a friendly face onto web design with drag-and-drop simplicity. If you're more technical, *Rapidweaver* ($79 (£56) from **www.realmacsoftware.com**) is very Mac-like in its design and approach, with some great templates, easy integration of interactive content like movies, *Flash* and blogs. For the more experienced user it supports manual HTML and PHP coding. You can upload sites to MobileMe or your own domain using its FTP transfer facilities.

Apple's *iLife* suite includes the very user-friendly *iWeb* app, but some people prefer the more feature-rich *RapidWeaver*.



Contact Form Settings

Send To: Mac@macformat.co.uk
From Name: Your Name:
From Email: Your Email:
Subject: Subject:

Form Feedback

Required: Fields marked with * are required
Symbol: *

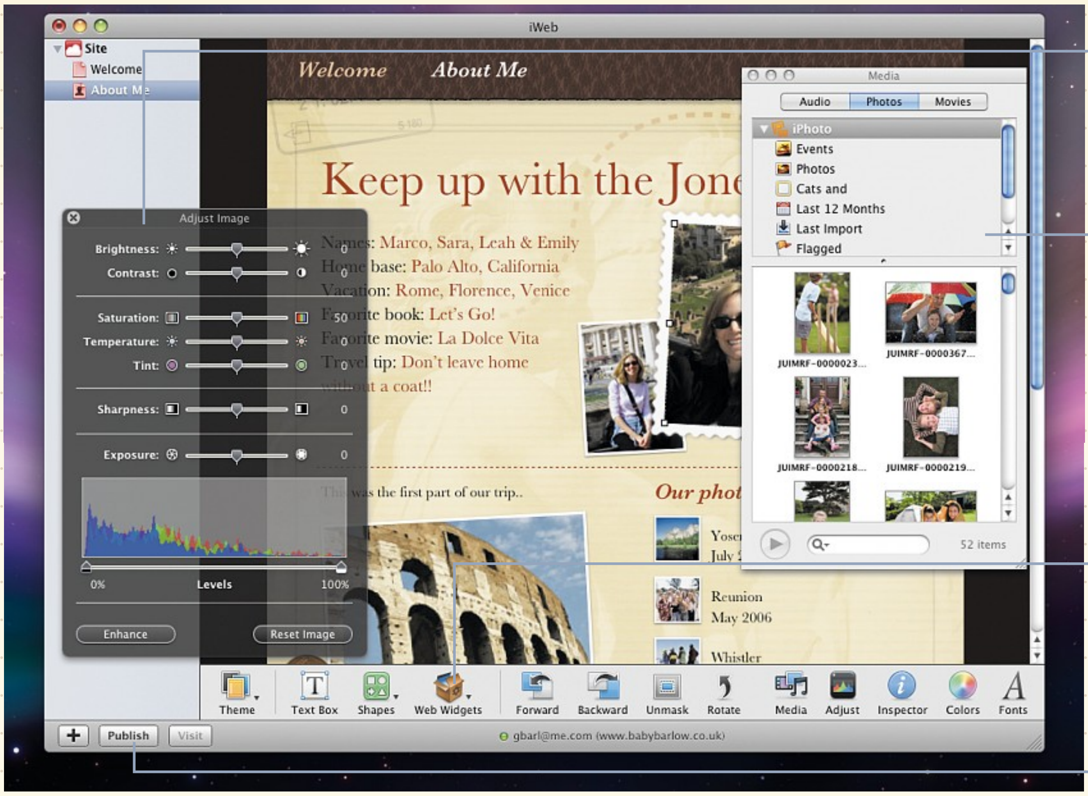
Submit Button: Submit
Reset Button: Reset

From Address is:

● Recipient's email
○ Your email (required for Yahoo! web hosting)

Type	Required
Text Field	☑
Text Field	☑
Text Field	☑
Text Area	☑

TOP FEATURES | Web building with iWeb ’08 or ’09


iWeb
Site
Welcome
About Me
Welcome
About Me
Keep up with the Jone
Names: Marco, Sara, Leah & Emily
Home base: Palo Alto, California
Vacation: Rome, Florence, Venice
Favorite book: Let's Go!
Favorite movie: La Dolce Vita
Travel tip: Don't leave home without a coat!!
This was the first part of our trip..
Our phot
Reunion
May 2006
Whistler
Adjust Image
Brightness:
Contrast:
Saturation:
Temperature:
Tint:
Sharpness:
Exposure:
Levels
0%
100%
Enhance
Reset Image
Media
Audio
Photos
Movies
iPhoto
Events
Photos
Cats and
Last 12 Months
Last Import
Flagged
JUIMRF-0000023...
JUIMRF-0000367...
JUIMRF-0000218...
JUIMRF-0000219...
52 items
Theme
Text Box
Shapes
Web Widgets
Forward
Backward
Unmask
Rotate
Media
Adjust
Inspector
Colors
Fonts
Publish
Visit
gbarl@me.com (www.babybarlow.co.uk)

Adjust options

Alter the properties of images such as brightness, contrast and exposure just like in *iPhoto*, but without having to leave *iWeb*.

Media library

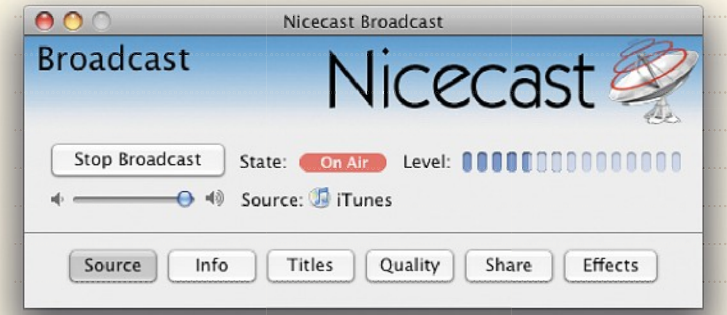
iWeb can see your *iPhoto, iTunes* and movie libraries, and you can drop content directly into your web page without leaving the program. The **Media** library is a floating panel in *iWeb ’08* and a sidebar in *’09*.

Web widgets

It’s easy to paste HTML snippets or Google Maps and AdSense ads into your page, simplifying the process of building sites.

Publish the site

In *iWeb ’08* you hit **Publish** here to upload the site to your MobileMe account, or publish it to a folder. *iWeb ’09* finally supports publishing via FTP, as well.


Nicecast Broadcast
Broadcast
Nicecast
Stop Broadcast
Level:
Source
Info
Titles
Quality
Share
Effects

State: On Air

Source: iTunes

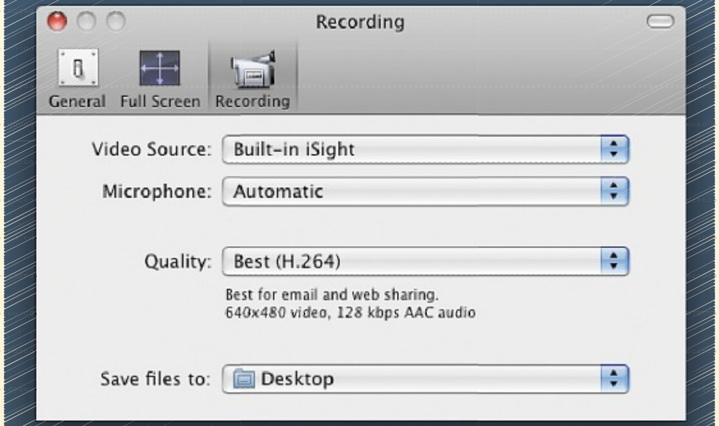
Nicecast provides an incredibly simple way to broadcast more or less any audio source online as web radio.

Start a web radio station

In this digital age it’s easier than ever to reach a large audience by going online. In the case of web radio, a tool like *Nicecast* ($40 (£28), **www.rogueamoeba.com/nicecast**) is an incredibly simple yet powerful way to become a worldwide broadcaster. It can read from your *iTunes* library as well as being able to access microphone streams and audio from other applications, and broadcast them to the web with a single click. You can send the URL of your stream to your listeners and also to various web radio services like Live365. It supports multiple quality settings to maximise your bandwidth and also password protection of streams, archiving of broadcasts and even voiceover so you can mix in DJ commentary with your web stream. Even if you don’t want to broadcast to others, it lets you access your *iTunes* library from anywhere with an internet connection.

Make a videocast

It’s easy to make your own videocast using the iSight camera built into Macs, or with a FireWire or other digital video camera. You can use either *iMovie* or *QuickTime Pro*, which is £20 for a licence key. By opening *QuickTime* and selecting File > New Movie Recording, you can record a video stream from your camera. Use the **Export** menu to save it as an iPod-formatted video which will give you the optimum balance of file size and quality. You can then publish to an RSS-enclosed service like Blogger, perhaps using *Feedburner* (**www.feedburner.com**). You will have to host the video file somewhere, like on your MobileMe web space, for example, and reference that location in the RSS feed. You can even publish it to the iTunes Podcast Directory via *iTunes*. If you wish to make a more complex movie, try *Final Cut Express* at £126.


Recording
General
Full Screen
Recording

Video Source: Built-in iSight

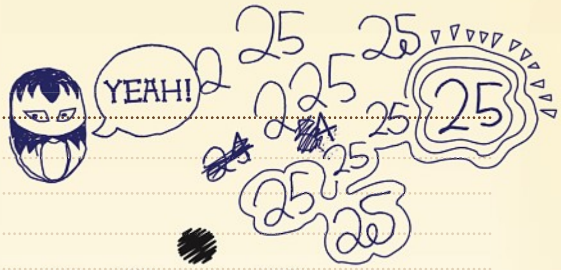
Microphone: Automatic

Quality: Best (H.264)

Best for email and web sharing.
640x480 video, 128 kbps AAC audio

Save files to: Desktop

Videocasts are simple to make. You can use your Mac’s built-in iSight camera, if it has one, or you can plug one in.


YEAH!
25
25
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25

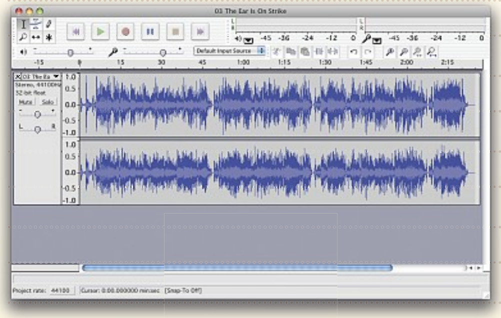
Do more with...
Sound & music

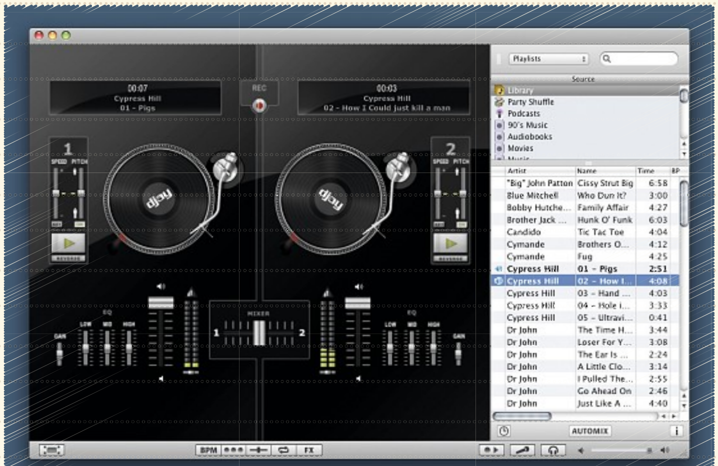
Here are some great tips to turn you into a music maestro with your Mac…

Play your music live on stage

There are some great commercial music production packages around, but for those on a budget there's *RAX* ($79 (£56), **www.audiofile-engineering.com**), an OS X native 'virtual rack' for instruments and effects. There are plenty of free and shareware virtual instruments and effects available in Apple's Audio Units format, letting you create beats, baselines and melodies and process them all through cool sounding effects. With *RAX* you can create racks of instruments and play them live using a MIDI keyboard, flipping between sets of instruments easily for a seamless performance. There are mixer controls for balancing everything and a visualiser with multiple themes to add an extra dimension to your show. Sets of instruments can be saved into *Songs* and loaded quickly, and there's MIDI file support, so there's no need to buy an expensive sequencer to load your MIDI files – just take this lightweight virtual rack on stage.

RAX provides a way to use plug-in effects and virtual synths live on stage, playing them from a MIDI keyboard.


03 The Ear Is On Strike

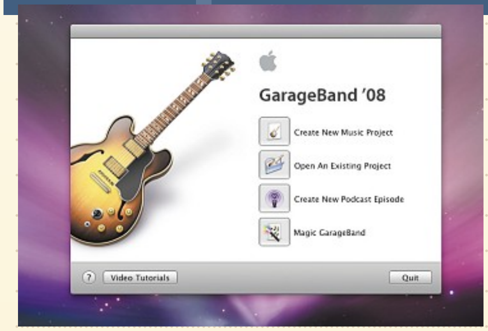

00:07
Cypress Hill
01 - Pigs
REC
00:03
Cypress Hill
02 - How I Could just kill a man
1
2
djay
MIXER
Playlists
Source
Library
Party Shuffle
Podcasts
90's Music
Audiobooks
Movies
AUTOMIX
BPM
FX

Artist	Name	Time
"Big" John Patton	Cissy Strut Big	6:58
Blue Mitchell	Who Dun It?	3:00
Bobby Hutche…	Family Affair	4:27
Brother Jack …	Hunk O' Funk	6:03
Candido	Tic Tac Toe	4:04
Cymande	Brothers O…	4:12
Cymande	Fug	4:25
Cypress Hill	01 – Pigs	2:51
Cypress Hill	02 – How I…	4:08
Cypress Hill	03 – Hand …	4:03
Cypress Hill	04 – Hole i…	3:33
Cypress Hill	05 – Ultravi…	0:41
Dr John	The Time H…	3:44
Dr John	Loser For Y…	3:08
Dr John	The Ear Is …	2:24
Dr John	A Little Clo…	3:14
Dr John	I Pulled The…	2:55
Dr John	Go Ahead On	2:46
Dr John	Just Like A …	4:40

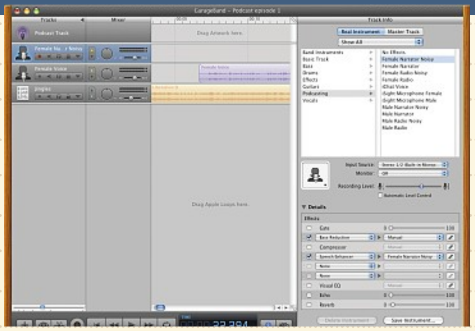
Become a DJ

iTunes is more than just a jukebox, by setting up playlists you can create your own DJ sets. Using the crossfade settings in the preferences you ensure that tunes fade in and out evenly, and with Smart Playlists and the search function you can quickly find a track from even the biggest music library. If you want something with a few more DJ-specific features, have a look at *Mixxx* (free, **www.mixxx.org**) or *Djay* ($50 (£35), **www.djay-software.com**) which has an elegant Mac-like interface and integrates with your *iTunes* library, providing advanced DJ features like automix, drag-and-drop mixing, microphone integration, multitouch trackpad scratching and even a real-time, built-in sampler.

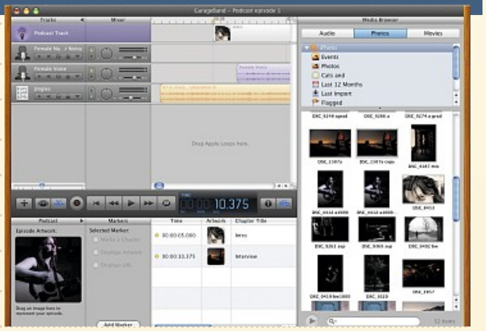
STEP BY STEP Make a podcast in GarageBand


GarageBand '08
Create New Music Project
Open An Existing Project
Create New Podcast Episode
Magic GarageBand
Video Tutorials
Quit

01 Start up *GarageBand* and choose **Create New Podcast Episode.** You can either use your Mac's built-in microphone or connect a USB mic or external interface through which to record, which will offer better sound quality. You might want to compose accompanying music, which can be recorded onto additional tracks.

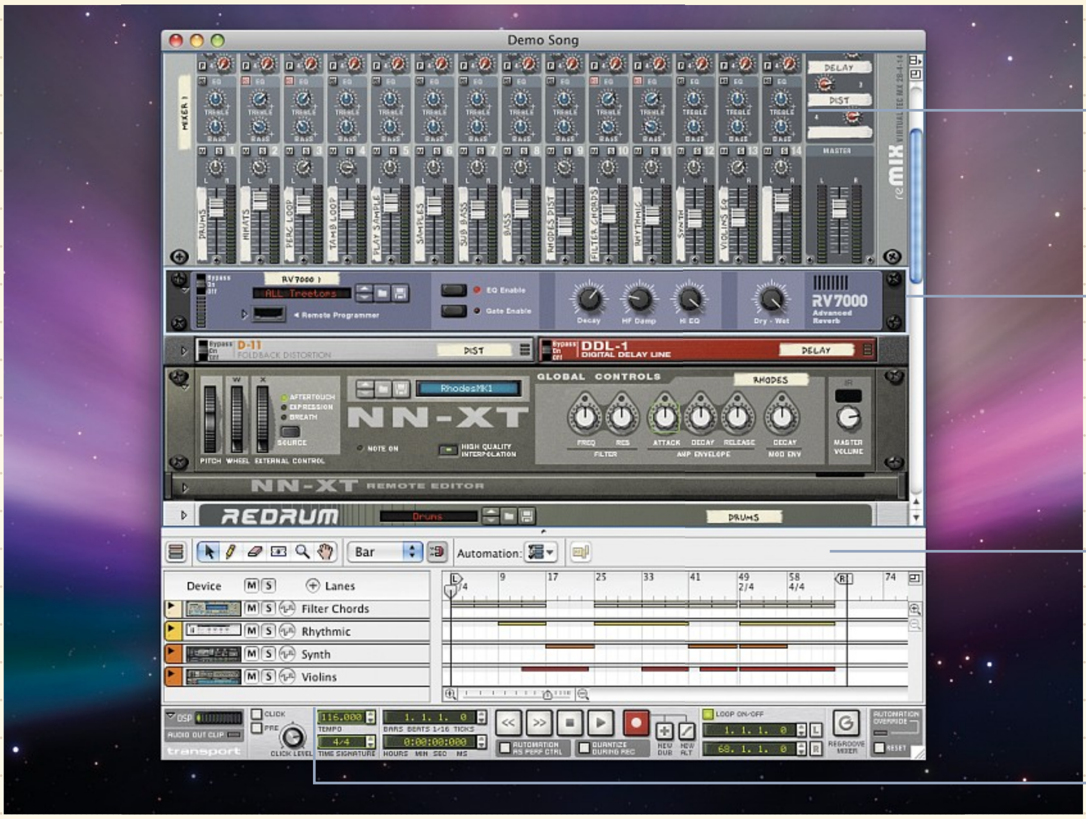

GarageBand - Podcast episode 1
Podcast Track
Jingles
Real Instrument
Master Track

02 Onto the **Jingle** track you can import your own music or an MP3. Alternatively, record your own music in from a guitar or keyboard, or use the loop library to create a music "bed", or backing track built up from loops. Select the first voice track and press **Record**. You will be able to record your voice in from the mic onto the track.


GarageBand - Podcast episode 1
Media Browser
Audio
Photos
Movies
10.375

03 Press the **Media Browser** button and you can drag artwork to the master track. You can also add markers, chapters, artwork and URL links that will appear as the podcast plays, at the points you inserted them. When you have finished, choose **Share** to send it to *iTunes,* or export it to disk and submit it to your podcasting service of choice. ●

TOP FEATURES | Make better music with Reason (www.propellerheads.se)


Demo Song
reMIX
DELAY
DIST
MASTER
RV7000 Advanced Reverb
D-11 FOLDBACK DISTORTION
DDL-1 DIGITAL DELAY LINE
NN-XT
GLOBAL CONTROLS
NN-XT REMOTE EDITOR
REDRUM
Bar
Automation:
Device
Lanes
Filter Chords
Rhythmic
Synth
Violins
transport

The mixer
All your instruments and effects are routed here, where you can balance and mix them just like in a real music studio.

Instruments and effects
Reason has loads of instruments and effects from drum machines to pianos and synths, reverbs, delays and vocoders to help you produce great music.

The sequencer
Record your music as MIDI in the sequencer from an external MIDI keyboard. Copy, paste and edit parts to correct timing and improve performances.

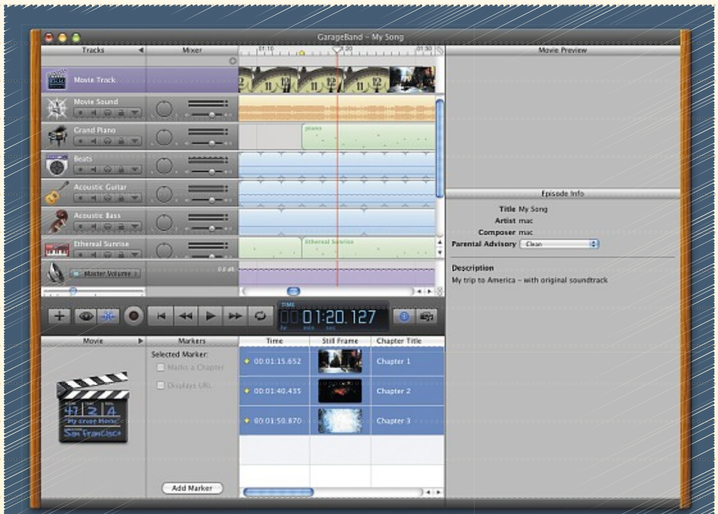
The Transport panel
Control playback, tempo, time signature and recording from here. Use the editing tools to manipulate and enhance your music.

Convert vinyl recordings to digital for free!

As well as *GarageBand*, there are other great audio recording apps available. *Audacity* (free, **http://audacity.sourceforge.net**) is an open source, multitrack audio editor and recorder that can record sound from any connected interface or from your Mac's built-in microphone. Record yourself playing, overdub singing and percussion, then add effects like reverb or delay for a professional touch. Finally, mix the tracks together and export as a full quality AIFF or MP3 to upload to the web or email to friends. *Amadeus Pro* ($40, (£28) **www.hairersoft.com**) is similar but has a more extensive feature-set, such as support for VST plug-ins, batch processing for converting many files at once, and audio repair tools for converting vinyl recordings to digital files to listen to on your iPod. A decent USB microphone offers much better sound quality than a built-in mic, so think about buying one.

Audacity is a free multitask audio editor and recorder with effects you can use to record your own music or convert old vinyl records to MP3.

RAX
Go OnStage
Sets
Songs
Effects
Mixer
Instruments


GarageBand - My Song
Tracks
Mixer
Movie Preview
Movie Track
Movie Sound
Grand Piano
Beats
Acoustic Guitar
Acoustic Bass
Ethereal Sunrise
Master Volume
01:20.127
Movie
Markers
Selected Marker:
Time
Still Frame
Chapter Title
Add Marker
Episode Info

Title My Song
Artist mac
Composer mac
Parental Advisory Clean
Description
My trip to America – with original soundtrack

Time	Chapter Title
00:01:15.652	Chapter 1
00:01:40.435	Chapter 2
00:01:50.870	Chapter 3

Compose a movie soundtrack

With *GarageBand*, you can compose music using loops, virtual instruments and live recording. Say you've made a movie in *iMovie '08*, added titles and a voiceover, but you want to stamp your identity on it by adding some original music. In *GarageBand*, choose to save a project with an *iLife* preview, or export it as a mixdown. Then, in your *iMovie's* **Music and Sound Effects** window, the music should appear and you can drag it onto your movie canvas. Alternatively, finish the movie, export it then import it into *GarageBand's* video track, and compose the music along to it. Export the results by choosing Share > Send Movie, and choose a destination. ●

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www.atcomputers.co.uk

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www.play.com

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www.ghc.co.uk

Solutions Inc - Bournemouth
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0870 3898610

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Western Computer - Bristol
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0121 260 1900

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235 Regent St
020 7153 9000

Apple Store - Manchester
Arndale Ctr
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Cancom - Brighton
110 Queens Rd
01273 748 083

Solutions Inc - Brighton & Hove
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Cancom - Cambridge
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01223 247111

Scotsys - Edinburgh
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Apple Store - Kent
Bluewater Shopping Ctr
01322 640100

Apple Store - London
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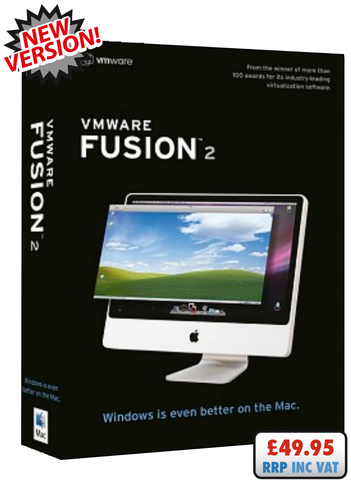
Get the best of both Mac and PC worlds with VMware Fusion. Seamlessly run your favorite Windows applications and devices, on the Mac.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Built from the ground up for the Mac, VMware Fusion is the easiest way to switch to Mac—letting you bring all your Windows applications with you, making the most of your Windows software investment, and providing the perfect safety blanket for the switch. The winner of more than a dozen industry awards, VMware Fusion gives you the power of more than a decade of technology excellence, with the intuitive, user-friendly experience you expect from the Mac. With VMware Fusion, Windows is even better on the Mac.

Features/Benefits List:

- **Seamlessly integrate Windows applications with the Mac**
- **Launch Windows applications from any Mac file, the Dock, and more**
- **Run Windows side-by-side with Mac OS X without rebooting**
- **Minimize Windows applications to the Dock**
- **Use Exposé to switch between Windows and Mac applications**
- **Import an existing PC with VMware Converter**
- **Install new Windows OS with Windows Easy Install**
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- **Includes a free 12-month subscription to McAfee VirusScan Plus**

Switching to the Mac is easy and painless with VMware Fusion 2.

With Exposé you can easily switch between Mac and Windows apps

VMware Fusion 2 raises the bar for 3D acceleration yet again

FUSION is the winner of more than a dozen industry awards, including...

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Visit www.softlineuk.com for more product information

With new versions of *iLife* and *iWork* comes the opportunity to do lots of new, fun things, and we've written tutorials on lots of them in this issue. We'll help you master two of iPhoto's coolest new features, **Faces** and **Places**, boost your productivity with *Pages'* new outlining feature, and get you strted with transitions in *Keynote '09*.

It's not all about *iLife* and *iWork*, however. Rod Lawton has written a cracking tutorial on a neat little technique for giving your photos real punch in *Photoshop*, we've got a smashing getting started guide for the BBC's iPlayer download manager that lets you watch BBC programmes even when offline, and our shareware guru, Craig Grannell turns the spotlight on a handful of excellent apps for getting more from your Mac; I'm particularly delighted to see him highlight *iStat menus*, as that's a tool I couldn't be without these days!

Punch up your pictures **p40**

Geolocate all your photos **p44**

Watch BBC programmes **p58**

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How to…

MacFormat brings you all the tips, tricks and tutorials you need to get the most from your Apple products

Next issue

We've got a fantastic cross-section of stuff in the next issue, so there's bound to be something to interest you. We'll walk you through using *Pages* for mail merge, showcase *iPhoto '09's* editing prowess, and take a look at the best Mac apps for managing Twitter from your Desktop. And if you don't know what Twitter is, you'll just have to buy the issue!

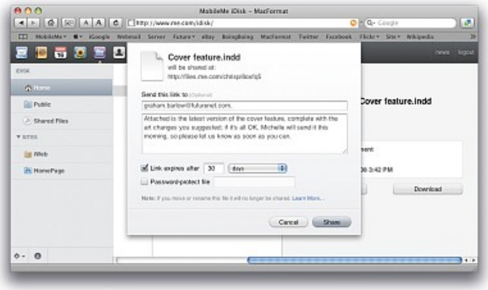
Mail merging in *Pages '09*

iPhoto '09's new editing features

Twitter from your Desktop!

Did you know?

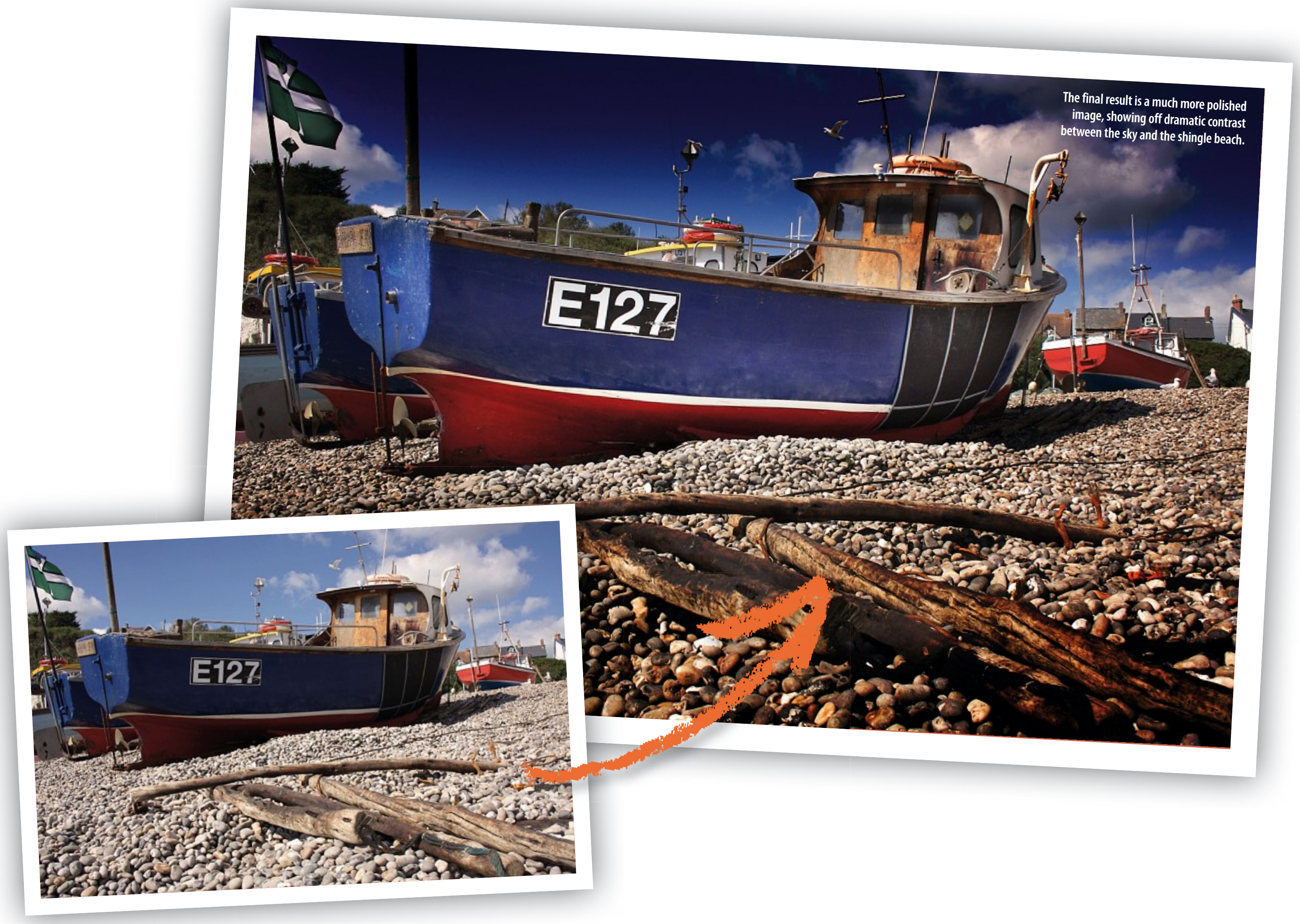
You can now email links to files on your iDisk



graham.barlow@futurenet.com

Attached is the latest version of the cover feature, complete with the art changes you suggested; if it's all OK, Michelle will send it this morning, so please let us know as soon as you can.

Email was never built for sending large files; far better, though, to upload your files to some online storage space, then email a simple link for that file to your recipients. MobileMe subscribers can do this with files stored on their iDisk; just log in at **www.me.com/idisk**.



The final result is a much more polished image, showing off dramatic contrast between the sky and the shingle beach.

Edit using an Overlay layer

Photoshop's Dodge and Burn tools work well but they're tough to undo. Here's another way…

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- *Photoshop Elements* (£58, **www.adobe.com/uk**)
- A flat-looking image in need of rescuing
- 15 minutes of your time

PHOTOSHOP ELEMENTS TECHNIQUES

Dodging and burning is a technique that is traditionally applied to black-and-white photographs in the darkroom. Dodging is when you hold back parts of the print under the enlarger so that they come out lighter, while burning (or burning in) is where other areas are given a longer exposure, which makes them come out darker. It might be used to lighten people's faces when they're in shadows, say, and to darken pale skies to make them more dramatic.

But while dodging and burning is known primarily as a black-and-white technique, that's probably because few people made colour prints by hand. However, it is just as effective when applied to colour images, and extremely easy to do digitally.

> "All the dodging and burning in this new method is applied to a new layer on top of the original image"

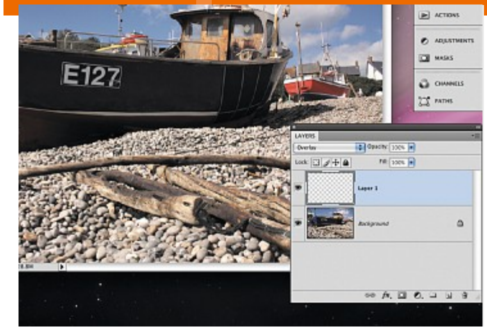
All the dodging and burning in this method is applied to a new layer on top of the original image. Our screenshots are from *Photoshop CS4*, but it will work just as well in older versions of both *Photoshop* and *Elements*.

This layer is set to the **Overlay** blend mode. And this works in a very interesting way. If the pixels on this layer are 50% grey, the image on the layer below it appears unchanged. If they're darker than 50% grey, the image below is darkened, while if they're lighter than 50% grey, the image below is lightened.

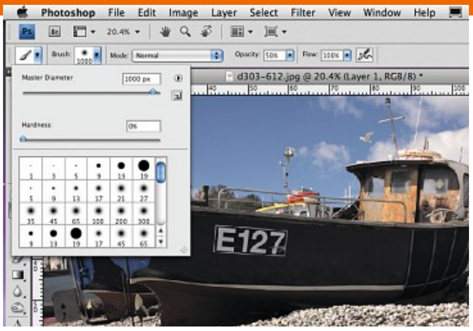
You can actually apply fairly crude dodging and burning effects by painting in either white or black on this layer, and have a good result. But, in practice, it's better to build up the effect subtly, using a combination of large, soft-edged brushes and an opacity of no more than 50% for a truly professional outcome.

Rod Lawton

STEP BY STEP Change the tone of an image with blend modes


E127
LAYERS
Overlay
Opacity: 100%
Fill: 100%
Layer 1
Background

01 The original image is pleasant enough but a bit flat. It needs deeper, richer colours and a more dramatic, contrasty appearance. The first step is to create a new, blank layer and set its blend mode to **Overlay** using the pop-up menu at the top of the **Layers** palette. Initially there will be no change because this layer is currently empty.


Photoshop File Edit Image Layer Select Filter View Window Help
Master Diameter
1000 px
Hardness:
0%
d303-612.jpg @ 20.4% (Layer 1, RGB/8) *
E127

02 Before painting anything on this layer it's important to choose the right brush style. It's tempting to go for a small brush to follow the outlines carefully, but this is difficult and seldom works well. Instead, go for a big, soft brush, say 1,000 pixels with 0% hardness. This produces smooth transitions that are much less obvious.

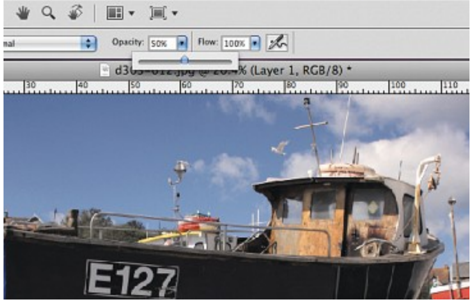
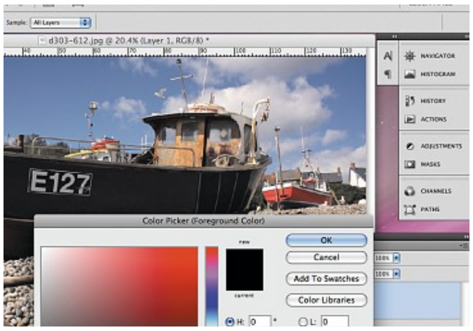
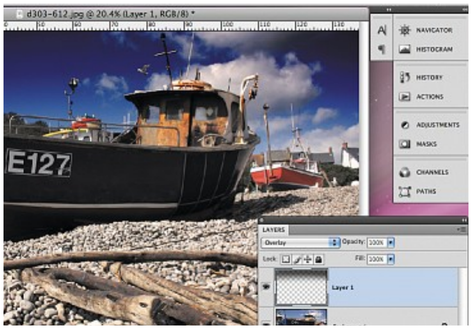


Image Layer Select Filter View Window Help
Opacity: 50%
Flow: 100%
(Layer 1, RGB/8) *
E127

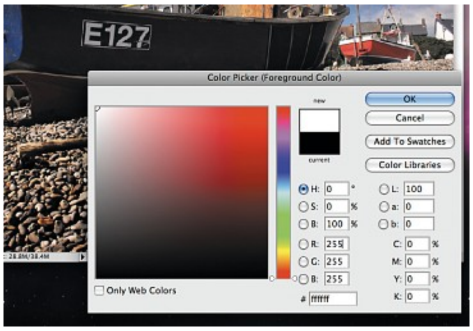
03 There's one more brush property to change, which is the opacity. Change the strength of the dodging and burning effect by painting in different shades of grey rather than black and white. Setting the opacity to 50% offers the same control over the strength and enables you to build up the effect rather than getting it right first time.


d303-612.jpg @ 20.4% (Layer 1, RGB/8) *
E127
Color Picker (Foreground Color)
OK
Cancel
Add To Swatches
Color Libraries

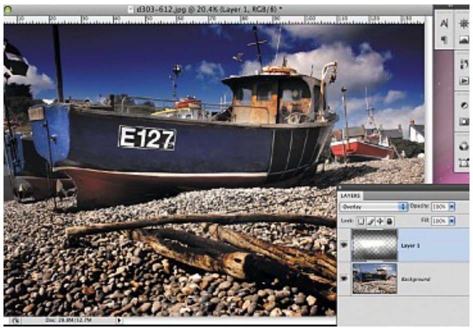
04 Now we're ready to try a little burning (darkening) on the sky. This will give it a greater depth and intensity. All we need to do is open the **Color Picker** and set the brush colour to black. Alternatively, just use the gadget at the bottom of the toolbar to reset the foreground/ background colours to black and white.


d303-612.jpg @ 20.4% (Layer 1, RGB/8) *
E127
LAYERS
Overlay
Layer 1

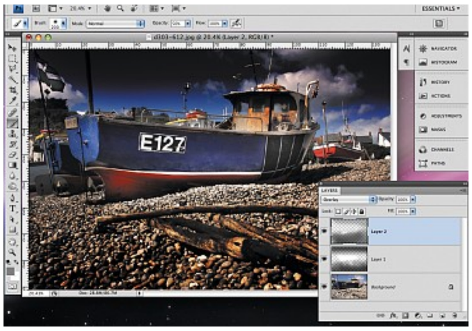
05 See the difference from just a single horizontal brushstroke across the top of the sky? This also shows up on the layer thumbnail on the **Layers** palette (the checkerboard pattern is visible through the brushstroke because of the reduced opacity). Darken skies more towards the zenith and less at the horizon for a natural look.


E127
Color Picker (Foreground Color)
OK
Cancel
Add To Swatches
Color Libraries
Only Web Colors
# ffffff

06 In order to add contrast and 'frame' the boat, using the same technique we've darkened the beach nearest the camera. The boat, however, offers a different problem. It's a little too dark and needs 'dodging'. To do this, open the **Color Picker** and set the brush colour to white (or, hit the [x] key to swap the foreground/background colours).

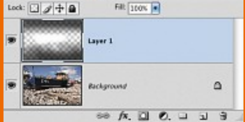

d303-612.jpg @ 20.4% (Layer 1, RGB/8) *
E127
LAYERS
Layer 1
Background

07 Now we paint over the boat to lighten it – and again, because of the reduced brush opacity, we can build up the effect slowly. It's important that the lightening effect doesn't 'spill out' onto the sky, so a much smaller brush size is needed. The quick way to do this is to tap the [key. Tapping the] key increases the brush size again.


E127
Layer 2
Layer 1
Background

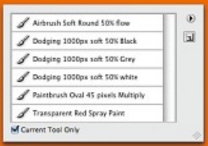
08 There is a limit to how much darkening and lightening can be applied with this technique, but there's also a way round it! If you want the sky to be darker still, just add another **Overlay** layer and start applying corrections to that one too. One final point is that you can modify it at any time by re-painting with a different shade.●

TOOL SCHOOL


Overlay
Opacity: 100%
Fill: 100%
Layer 1
Background

The Overlay mode is one of two contrast blend modes in *Photoshop* – the other is called Soft Light. You'll fine that both can darken or lighten the layer below but the Overlay mode has the strongest effect.

EXPERT TIP


Airbrush Soft Round 50% flow
Dodging 1000px soft 50% Black
Dodging 1000px soft 50% Grey
Dodging 1000px soft 50% white
Paintbrush Oval 45 pixels Multiply
Transparent Red Spray Paint
Current Tool Only

To save time dodging and burning you can save brush presets consisting of specific brush sizes, hardness, opacity and colour.

Use Faces in iPhoto '09

Faces helps tag your friends and allows easy integration with Facebook

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- G4 processor or better
- Apple *iPhoto '09* (£69, part of *iLife '09*, **http://store.apple.com/uk**)
- Mac OS X 10.5 Leopard

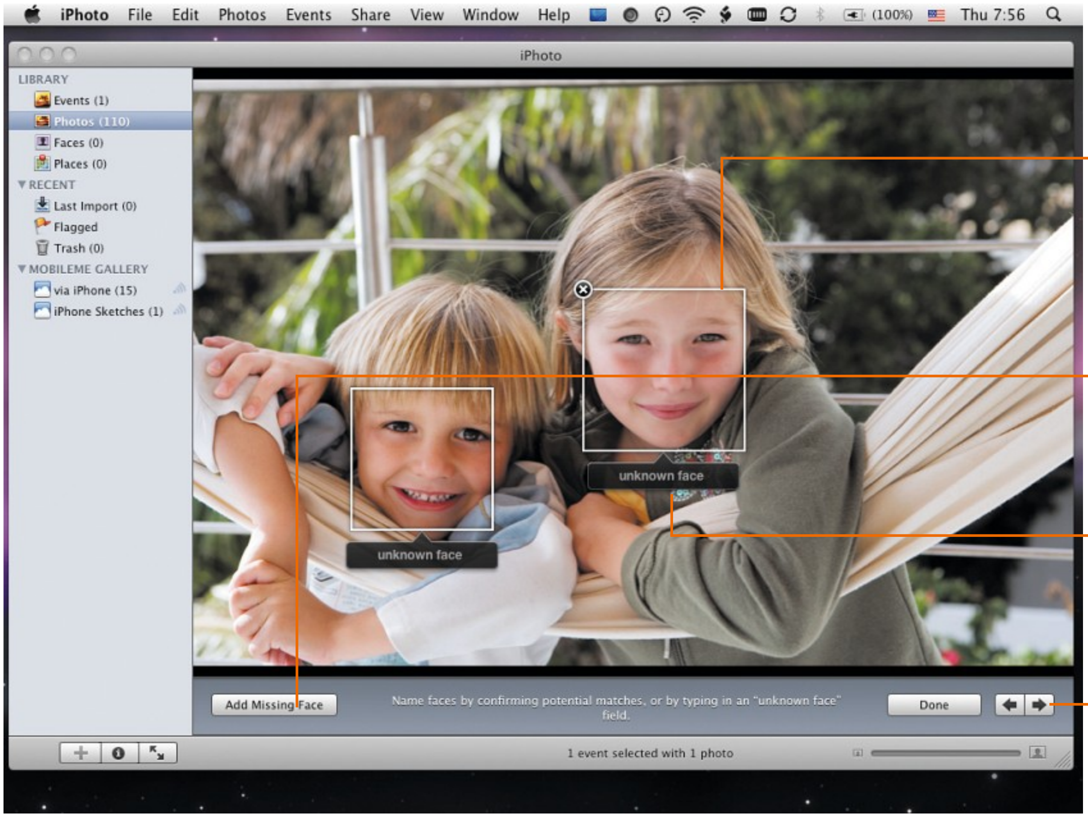
The evolution of *iPhoto* has been based on function and convenience, while sticking to its purpose as the prime photo app for the Mac. In the last version of *iPhoto*, Apple introduced **Events**, a way to organises your photos by an event. *iPhoto '09* continues the auto-organisation process with **Faces**. **Faces** scans all your photos, finds the people in them and allows you to quickly identify who they are, and then creates a smart album on the corkboard for each person, so you can find their pictures easily. The best thing about **Faces**, though, is that once you've identified a person in a few photos, *iPhoto* will learn how to spot them itself, saving you hours of manual tagging.

Faces also integrates with Facebook, so when you upload your photos to Facebook, any email matching a Facebook ID will alert that person to tell them that a new image of them is online. Once connected to Facebook, *iPhoto* will hunt out photos in your library that are also posted on Facebook and add tags back to your library. Neat!

> "The more images you have of a person, iPhoto will spot them, saving you hours of tagging"

If you don't use Facebook much, *iPhoto '09* will still aid in your online photo sharing with buttons for MobileMe and Flickr.
Kevin J Wolfe

TOP FEATURES | Using the Name button to identify faces in iPhoto '09


iPhoto File Edit Photos Events Share View Window Help
(100%) Thu 7:56
iPhoto
LIBRARY
Events (1)
Photos (110)
Faces (0)
Places (0)
RECENT
Last Import (0)
Flagged
Trash (0)
MOBILEME GALLERY
via iPhone (15)
iPhone Sketches (1)
unknown face
unknown face
Add Missing Face
Done

Name faces by confirming potential matches, or by typing in an "unknown face" field.

1 event selected with 1 photo

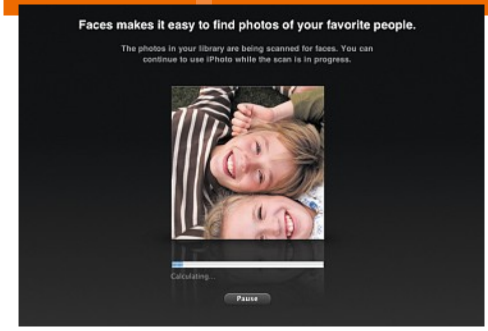
Face frame
Faces draws a frame around every face it can locate. Just move your cursor over the top-left corner of the frame if you want to delete the floating frame.

Add Missing Face button
This button enables you to add a resizable frame that you can move over a face that has not been detected in the selected photo.

Name tag
Faces provides another handy function that saves time. Just start typing and a list of existing named faces will pop up for easy tagging.

Left/Right arrows
These convenient arrows in the bottom-right of the screen enable you to move through your photo library to tag more photos..

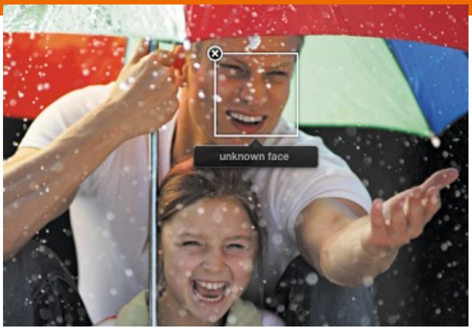
STEP BY STEP How to tag photos, use Faces and upload to Facebook


Faces makes it easy to find photos of your favorite people.

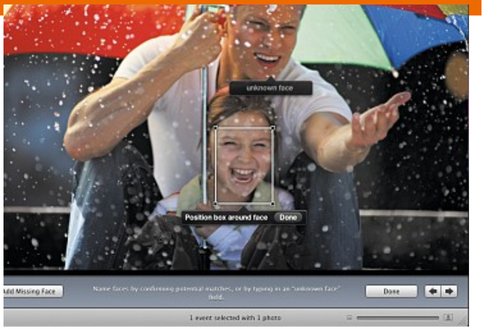
The photos in your library are being scanned for faces. You can continue to use iPhoto while the scan is in progress.

Calculating...

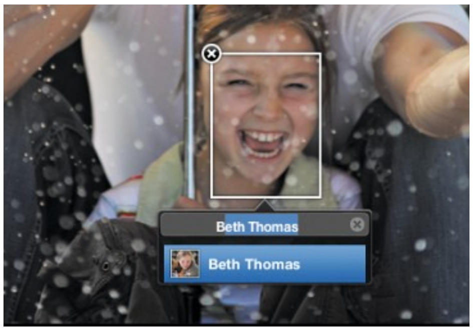
01 When you launch *iPhoto '09* for the first time it will scan your photo library. Depending on its size, this will take anything from a few minutes to half an hour, if your library is particularly massive. There's a pause button if you need to stop the scan and finish later. After the initial scan, *iPhoto* will scan each batch of new photos you import.


unknown face

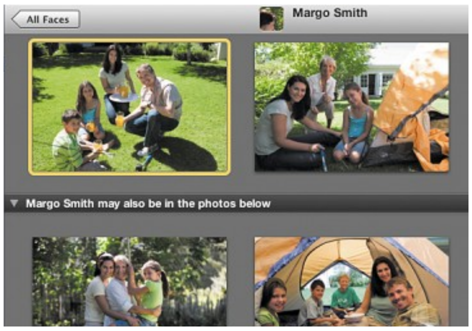
02 When the scan is done, click on a photo to highlight it. Click on the **Name** button at the bottom-left of *iPhoto*. The image will open in the **Face Editor**. Any face that has been recognised will have an **unknown face** tag beneath it. Just type your name into the name tag, and you've created a new entry on the corkboard in **Faces**.


unknown face
Position box around face
Done
Add Missing Face
Done
1 event selected with 1 photo

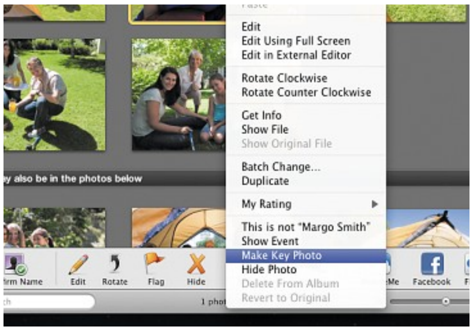
03 If *iPhoto* didn't auto-detect a face you want to add then you can click on the **Add Missing Face** button. This creates a white box. Drag the box into position over the face and drag the corners to fit the face inside it. Click on the **Done** button. Click on the **unknown face** tag and type in the person's name.


Beth Thomas
Beth Thomas

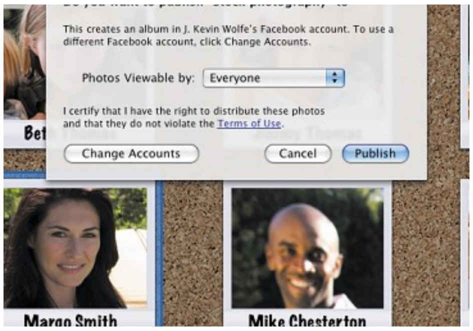
04 The left and right arrows at the bottom-right of the window quickly allow you to go through your library and tag everyone. If the same person is in the shot, start typing their name and a list of names will appear. Select the correct name and that person is tagged. After a while you'll notice *iPhoto* will start to guess who people are.


All Faces
Margo Smith
Margo Smith may also be in the photos below

05 Once you've identified an individual in a photo, *iPhoto* will seek that person out in your library. Click a **Faces** album and *iPhoto* will show you the photos it thinks contain that person. Click the **Confirm Name** button and confirm the correct images. The more images of a person that you confirm, the better *iPhoto* gets at guessing.


Edit
Edit Using Full Screen
Edit in External Editor
Rotate Clockwise
Rotate Counter Clockwise
Get Info
Show File
Show Original File
Batch Change...
Duplicate
My Rating
This is not "Margo Smith"
Show Event
Make Key Photo
Hide Photo
Delete From Album
Revert to Original
Edit
Rotate
Flag
Hide
Facebook

06 You can easily set the key photo that *iPhoto* shows on your corkboard for each **Faces** album. Double-click on the album you'd like to change to open it, then [Ctrl]-click on the image you'd like to represent it. Choose **Make Key Photo** from the menu. Now when you go back to your corkboard you'll see your selected photo.

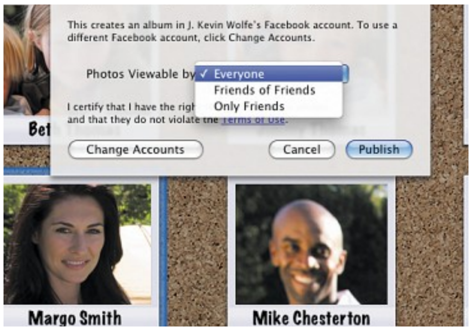

This creates an album in J. Kevin Wolfe's Facebook account. To use a different Facebook account, click Change Accounts.

Photos Viewable by: Everyone

I certify that I have the right to distribute these photos and that they do not violate the Terms of Use.

Change Accounts
Cancel
Publish
Margo Smith
Mike Chesterton

07 To upload to Facebook, select the photos and click on the **Facebook** button. *iPhoto* will ask if you want to set up Facebook publishing. Click on the **Setup** button and enter your Facebook username and password to connect to your Facebook account. Choose to keep logged on to **Photo Uploader**.


This creates an album in J. Kevin Wolfe's Facebook account. To use a different Facebook account, click Change Accounts.

Photos Viewable by ✓ Everyone

Friends of Friends
Only Friends
Change Accounts
Cancel
Publish
Margo Smith
Mike Chesterton

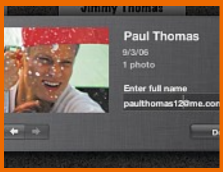
08 You'll be asked if you want to publish the current event or album and be able to select who will be able to view it. **Everyone** will make the images completely public. **Friends Only** allows those you confirmed as friends. **Friends of Friends** allows friends and anyone they're connected with to view it. Click the **Publish** button. ●

TOOL SCHOOL

The corkboard stores your Faces albums. They're filed in alphabetical order but you can be dragged around into whatever order you like.

EXPERT TIP

You can add an email address to a whole Faces album. Just click the i icon in the bottom-right corner and add it when the image flips.


Paul Thomas
9/3/06
1 photo
Enter full name
paulthomas12@me.com

Use Places in iPhoto '09

Places puts your iPhoto library on the map with geographical locations

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- G4 processor or better
- Apple *iPhoto '09* (£69, part of *iLife '09*, **http://store.apple.com/uk**)
- Mac OS X 10.5 Leopard

A new organising tool called **Places** is now included in *iPhoto '09*, which enables you to find images based on where they were shot. When you take an image with the iPhone 3G, the GPS coordinates where an image was shot are marked in the photo file. Most big camera manufacturers are also adding GPS. To see the GPS tags in an image, click on a photo to highlight it and press ⌘+⌥+[I]. When the **Extended Photo Info** window opens you'll find GPS coordinates under **Location**.

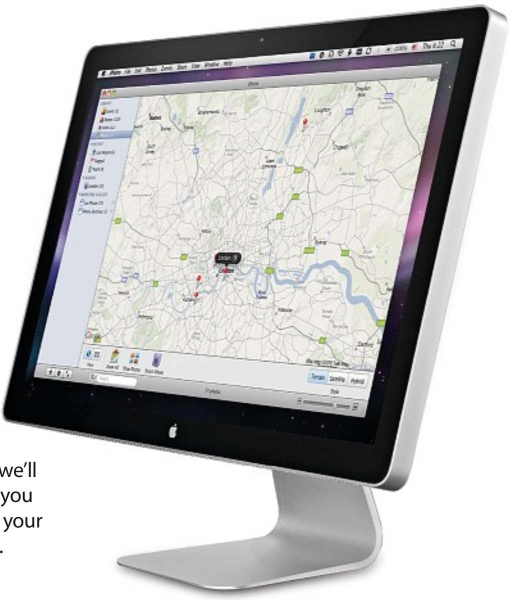
And if you don't have GPS yet, it's not a problem. **Places** is connected to Google Maps so you can pinpoint where your images were shot and then mark them yourself with an exact GPS coordinate. You can enter locations of **Events**, too. *iPhoto* remembers all your locations – just start typing and a list appears.

> "When you take an image with the 3G iPhone the GPS coordinates are marked in the file"

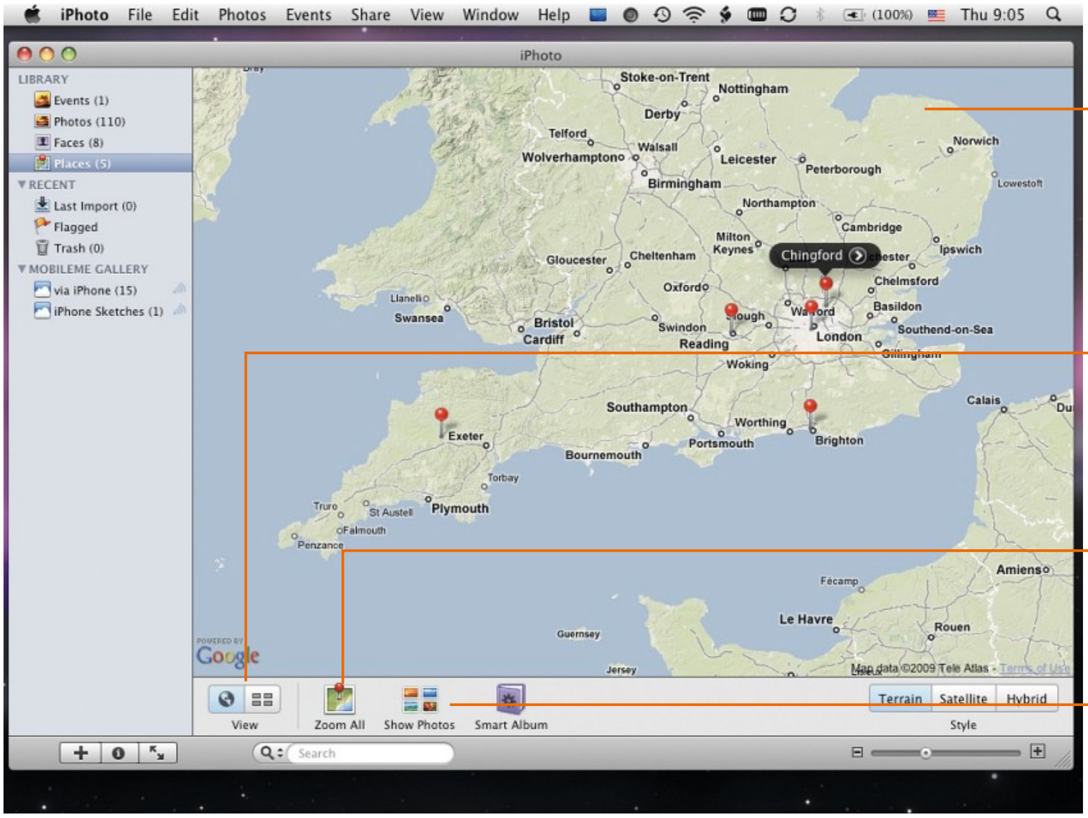
iPhoto then marks your photo locations on the map with pushpins. Once you initiate **Places** you'll see pins on the **Places** map for images in your library.

How precise you'd like to get is up to you. If you want to keep it simple and just mark the city, that's easy enough. In this tutorial we'll introduce you to **Places** and show you how to add location information if your camera doesn't do it automatically.

Kevin J Wolfe



TOP FEATURES | A quick tour of Places in iPhoto '09



iPhoto
File
Edit
Photos
Events
Share
View
Window
Help
(100%)
Thu 9:05
iPhoto
LIBRARY
Events (1)
Photos (110)
Faces (8)
Places (5)
RECENT
Last Import (0)
Flagged
Trash (0)
MOBILEME GALLERY
via iPhone (15)
iPhone Sketches (1)
Stoke-on-Trent
Nottingham
Derby
Norwich
Telford
Walsall
Wolverhampton
Leicester
Peterborough
Birmingham
Lowestoft
Northampton
Cambridge
Gloucester
Cheltenham
Milton Keynes
Chingford
Ipswich
Chelmsford
Oxford
Llanelli
Swansea
Bristol
Cardiff
Swindon
Reading
Basildon
London
Southend-on-Sea
Woking
Calais
Southampton
Worthing
Exeter
Portsmouth
Brighton
Bournemouth
Torbay
Truro
St Austell
Plymouth
Falmouth
Penzance
Amiens
Fécamp
Le Havre
Rouen
Guernsey
Jersey
POWERED BY Google
Map data ©2009 Tele Atlas - Terms of Use
View
Zoom All
Show Photos
Smart Album
Terrain
Satellite
Hybrid
Style
Search

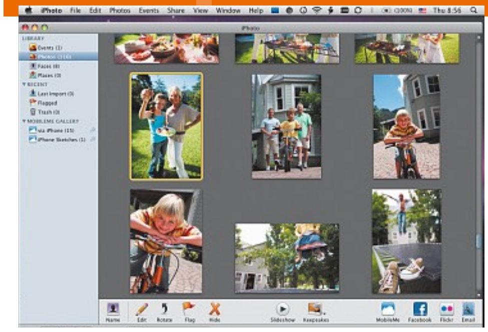
Google Maps
Places is integrated with Google Maps so you have the whole world at your fingertips – try scrolling the map around and zooming in.

View buttons
These nifty buttons enable you to toggle between the maps and photos associated with that map area, in a fuss-free manner.

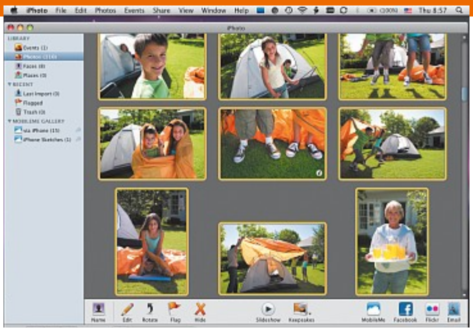
Zoom All button
This practical option means you can zoom in just to show the specific areas of the globe where your images have been snapped.

Show photos button
This handy button shows photos from those places visible on the map only. You can zoom in to show fewer images, if you so wish.

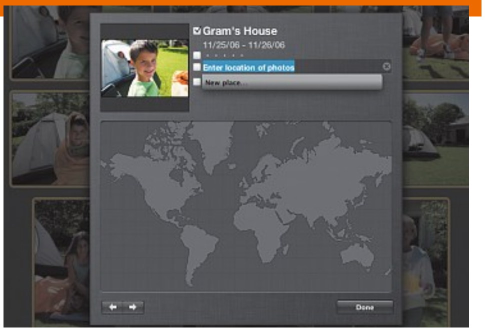
STEP BY STEP Learning to use Places in iPhoto '09


iPhoto
LIBRARY
Events
Photos
Faces
Places
RECENT
MOBILEME GALLERY

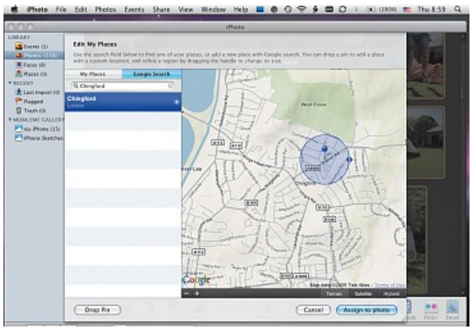
01 You will realise the full power of **Places** when you have geotagged some images in your *iPhoto* library. Typically most of the photos we take are from a handful of places. It's best to start with these photos and tag them since there are more of them. That way, you'll quickly get most of your library updated. So, pick an image from near home.



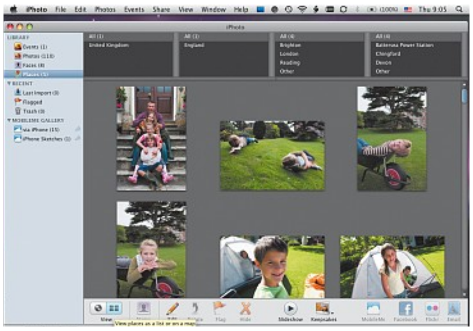
02 To save even more time, you can select multiple photos from the same location to tag all at once. ⌘-click on your choices and then click the **i** icon on any highlighted image. To do this, move your cursor over the right-hand corner of a thumbnail in your library. When the **i** icon appears, click on it. The photo will then flip.


Gram's House
11/25/06 - 11/26/06
Enter location of photos
New place...
Done

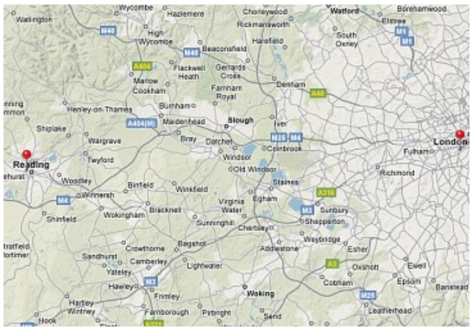
03 On the back of the image, click on **Enter Photo Location**. This data will be added to all highlighted images. Select the **New Place** choice from the list or just start typing for a list. When you click **New Places**, Google Maps opens. Type in the city or street and hit [Enter]. You'll get a list of choices. Click on one.


Edit My Places
My Places
Google Search
Chingford
Drop Pin
Cancel
Assign to photo

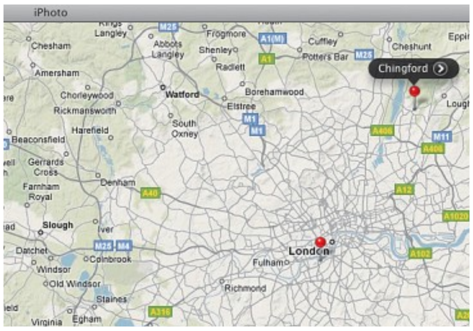
04 If you wish, you can move the blue pin to precisely target the location. If Google Maps can't find your location you can click on the **Drop Pin** button and place it yourself. Once you have the right spot, click on the **Assign to Photo** button. The location will now appear in the list. Click on the **Done** button.


United Kingdom
England
Brighton
London
Reading
Other
Battersea Power Station
Chingford
Devon
Other

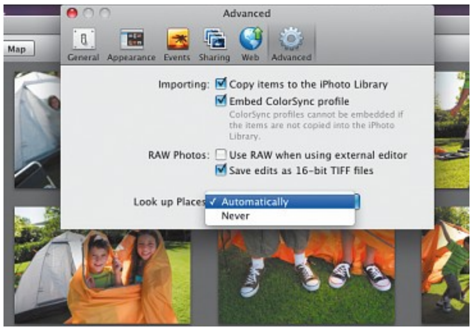
05 Select **Places** in your **Library** list. On the bottom-left you'll find **View**, which houses two connected buttons (a globe and four squares). The squares button gives you lists of your locations by country, region, city and street. Clicking an item on the list will narrow your photos down. Click on the globe if the map isn't already showing.


Reading
London
Slough
Windsor
Maidenhead
Wokingham
Bracknell

06 Clicking on the **Zoom All** icon will narrow the map to areas where you have pins. Drag the **Zoom** slider to the left if you need to get closer. The **Show Photos** button reveals photos for the pin locations visible on the map only. Click on the **Smart Album** button and you can create an album of those photos.


iPhoto
Chingford
Chesham
Amersham
Watford
Borehamwood
Rickmansworth
Slough
London
Windsor
Richmond

07 Move your cursor over a pin on the map. When the tag shows, you should click on the arrow on the right of the tag. This will then call up all the images that are assigned to that particular place. The function of this is a little sensitive, so carefully slide your cursor up to the tag without moving off it.


Advanced
General
Appearance
Events
Sharing
Web
Advanced

Importing: ☑ Copy items to the iPhoto Library
☑ Embed ColorSync profile
ColorSync profiles cannot be embedded if the items are not copied into the iPhoto Library.
RAW Photos: ☐ Use RAW when using external editor
☑ Save edits as 16-bit TIFF files
Look up Places ✓ Automatically
Never

08 If your photos have GPS tags, *iPhoto* can look up the location names for you. Click on the *iPhoto* menu, then click on **Preferences**, then click on the **Advanced** icon. From the **Look Up Places** drop-down choose **Automatically**. *iPhoto* will look up all locations for you when you import images and will search out existing GPS tags. ●

TOOL SCHOOL

Make sure you're connected to the internet when using **Places** otherwise Google Maps won't be available to reveal your pin positions.

EXPERT TIP

Since *iPhoto* treats movies like images, you can add locations to your movies, too. These will show up below the images on location lists.

untitled event
Jan 29, 2009 – 1 photo

Improve your iMovie audio

iMovie '08 only has a few sound tools, so use GarageBand to enhance your project's audio

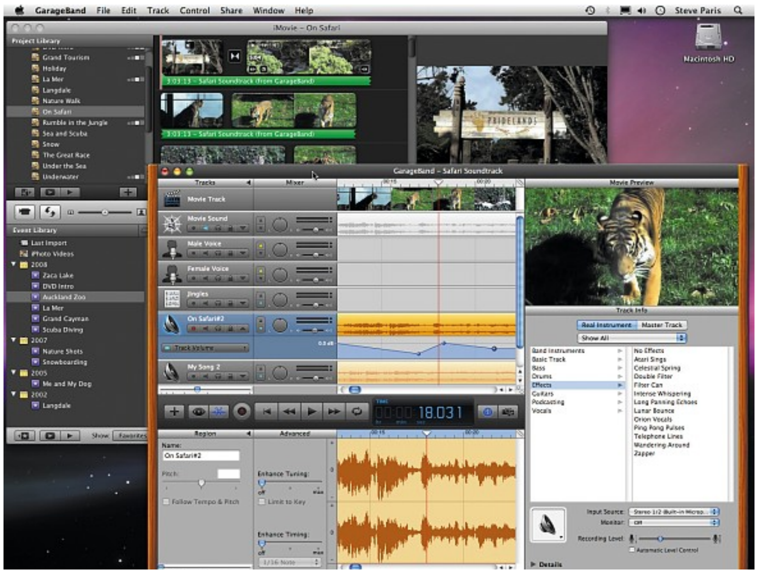
WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- Apple *iMovie '08 7.1.4* or *iMovie '09* (£69, part of *iLife '09*, **http://store.apple.com**)
- Apple *GarageBand '08 4.1.2* or *GarageBand '09* (£69, part of *iLife '09*, **http://store.apple.com**)
- 30 minutes of your time

Over the last few issues, we've covered most of the features available in *iMovie '08*. We even explored ways to go back to *iMovie '06* to use tools that were no longer available, as well as finding alternative places to add effects such as exporting footage via *QuickTime* (both techniques have now become mostly redundant with the release of *iMovie '09*, but there are many new features – see review on page 77).

However, despite *iMovie '08*'s obvious improvements over its predecessor in terms of video-editing and cataloguing, there is one side that still lacks, even with *iMovie '09*: audio editing.

> "This missing functionality could be explained by the fact iMovie is not a standalone app"



Forget the limited audio features in *iMovie '08*, *GarageBand* is the ideal way to get your audio sound perfected for your *iMovie* projects.

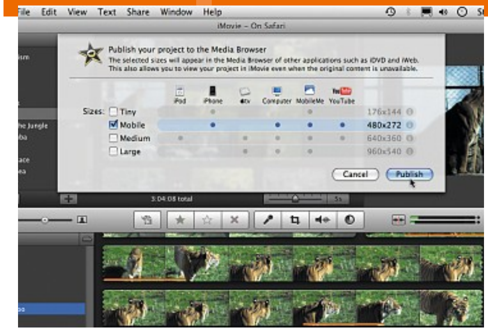
iMovie '06 offered us control over our sound files: we could adjust volume and even though there weren't many audio effects to choose from, having some was better than what we have now.

But this missing functionality could be partially explained by the fact that *iMovie* is not a standalone application: it comes bundled with *GarageBand* among others, which is perfect for editing audio and we'll show you how to use it to improve the sound quality of your home movies.

There is a drawback to using another application, though: you can't easily jump from one to the other. You have to work on and complete the visuals first and then export your film to *GarageBand*. Also, you may find it best to do most of your audio work in *GarageBand*: if you add music to your film in *iMovie*, you will not be able to separate it from your clip's audio once it's in *GarageBand*. Better to add it in *GarageBand* instead, where you'll then have control over both tracks.

This tutorial shows you how to export your sound and introduces you to the *GarageBand* interface by showing you similar tools to those in *iMovie*, bringing the audio back to *iMovie* to your project.
Steve Paris

STEP BY STEP Use GarageBand's tools to improve your home movie's soundtrack

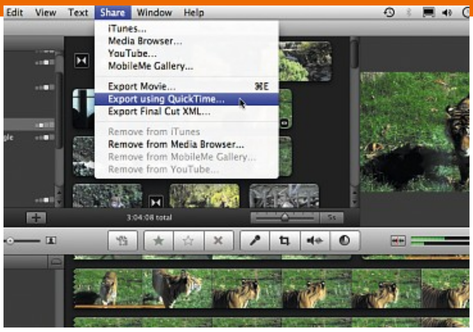


Publish your project to the Media Browser
The selected sizes will appear in the Media Browser of other applications such as iDVD and iWeb. This also allows you to view your project in iMovie even when the original content is unavailable.

Sizes:
☐ Tiny 176x144
☑ Mobile 480x272
☐ Medium 640x360
☐ Large 960x540

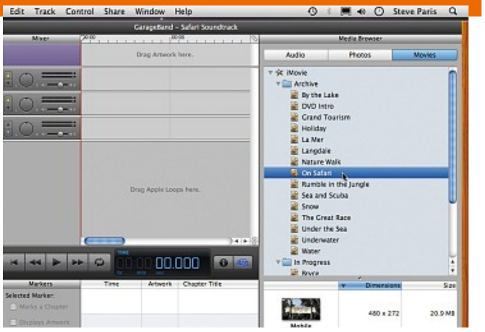
iMovie – On Safari
iPod
iPhone
tv
Computer
MobileMe
YouTube
Cancel
Publish
3:04:08 total

01 Let's start by selecting a completed project devoid of any additional audio tracks. Go to Share > Media Browser. This enables your project to be seen in other *iLife* applications. Only select the **Mobile** size and click on **Publish**. We only need a small video preview, which will also save time and disk space.



Edit
View
Text
Share
Window
Help
iTunes…
Media Browser…
YouTube…
MobileMe Gallery…
Export Movie…
Export using QuickTime…
Export Final Cut XML…
Remove from iTunes
Remove from Media Browser…
Remove from MobileMe Gallery…
Remove from YouTube…
3:04:08 total

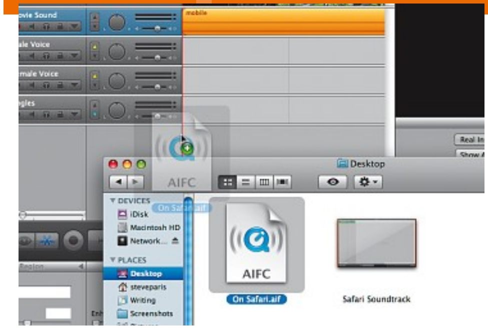
02 **Media Browser** compresses the video to H.264 and the audio to ACC. As we are looking to work with the best-quality audio possible, we need to export it in another way as well: go to Share > Export Using QuickTime. Click on the **Export** pull-down menu and choose **Sound to AIFF.** Choose **44.1 kHz 16 bit Stereo** from the **Use** menu.



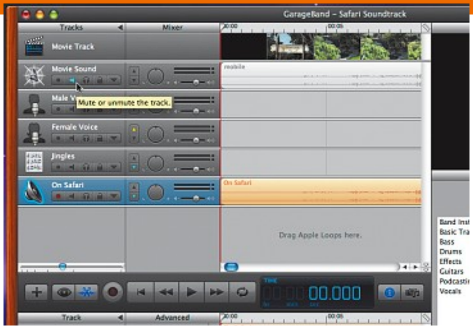
GarageBand – Safari Soundtrack
Media Browser
Audio
Photos
Movies
iMovie
Archive
On Safari
Drag Artwork here.
Drag Apple Loops here.
00.000

03 Save your audio to the Desktop and launch *GarageBand*. Choose **Create a New Podcast Episode** from the welcome screen. Name and save your project to bring up the *GarageBand* interface. To the right is the **Media Browser**. Select the **Movies** tab, locate your project and click on it. This reveals a thumbnail of your film beneath the list.

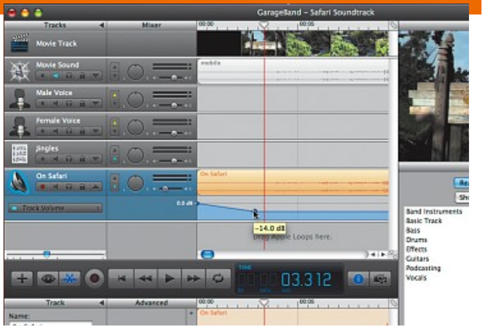
STEP BY STEP Use GarageBand's tools to improve your home movie's soundtrack… continued


Desktop
DEVICES
iDisk
Macintosh HD
Network…
PLACES
Desktop
steveparis
Writing
Screenshots
AIFC
On Safari.aif
Safari Soundtrack

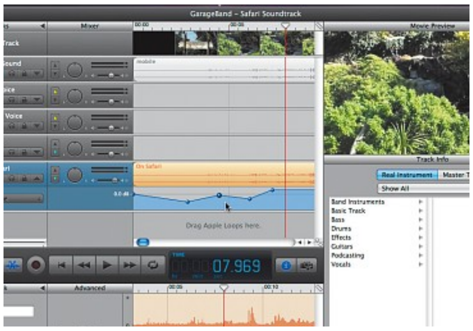
04 Drag that thumbnail to the main interface and agree to **Replace** the podcast track with it. Next, we need to import our high-quality audio track. Locate it in *Finder* and drag it to *GarageBand*. As you do, the playhead follows the start of the track. Make sure you release the mouse at the beginning of your project to avoid syncing issues.


GarageBand – Safari Soundtrack
Tracks
Mixer
Movie Track
Movie Sound
Male Voice
Mute or unmute the track
Female Voice
Jingles
On Safari
Drag Apple Loops here.
00.000
Track
Advanced

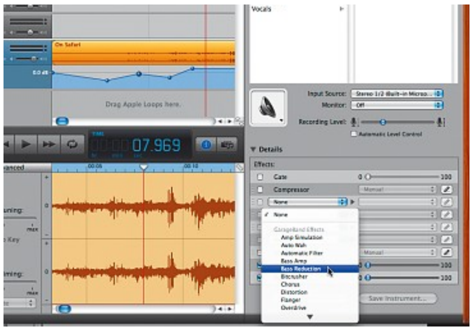
05 We must first mute the movie's audio as it will interfere with the higher-quality version. Each track has a series of buttons to its left. The first one, a circle, is the **Record** button. To its right is a **Speaker** button. Click on it to mute that track (you know it is activated when that speaker is coloured blue).


GarageBand – Safari Soundtrack
Movie Track
Movie Sound
Male Voice
Female Voice
Jingles
On Safari
Track Volume
-14.0 dB
Drag Apple Loops here.
03.312
Band Instruments
Basic Track
Bass
Drums
Effects
Guitars
Podcasting
Vocals

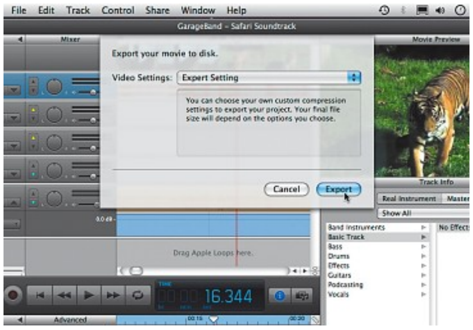
06 To the far right of that series of icons is a triangle pointing down. This allows you to have greater control over your audio. Click on the imported audio's triangle. By default, **Track Volume** is selected. A blue line is now under the clip. Click on that line to create a point. You can move it up to increase the volume or down to decrease it.


GarageBand – Safari Soundtrack
Mixer
Movie Preview
On Safari
Drag Apple Loops here.
07.969
Track Info
Real Instrument
Master Track
Show All
Band Instruments
Basic Track
Bass
Drums
Effects
Guitars
Podcasting
Vocals
Advanced

07 You can of course add multiple points and change the volume along the track just like you could in *iMovie '06*. If a point is not in the right place, you can drag it left or right. To remove a point, click on it to select it (it becomes bigger than the others) and hit the [Delete] key.


Vocals
Drag Apple Loops here.
07.969
Input Source:
Monitor:
Recording Level:
Automatic Level Control
Details
Effects:
Gate
Compressor
None
GarageBand Effects
Amp Simulation
Auto Wah
Automatic Filter
Bass Amp
Bass Reduction
Bitcrusher
Chorus
Distortion
Flanger
Overdrive
Save Instrument…

08 Double-click on the audio track to reveal information on the right-hand side. At the bottom is a **Details** disclosure triangle. Click on it. This is where you can add effects to your track. There are a lot of options available to you. To add or modify one, click on a pulldown menu on that section's left and choose the one you need.

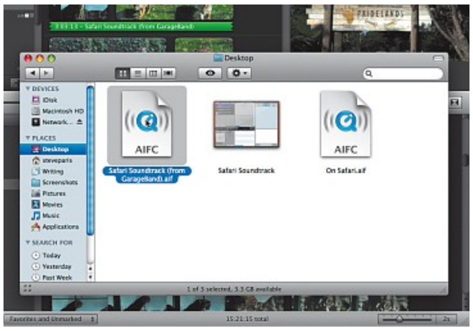

File
Edit
Track
Control
Share
Window
Help
GarageBand – Safari Soundtrack
Mixer
Movie Preview
Cancel
Export
Track Info
Real Instrument
Master Track
Show All
No Effects
16.344
Advanced

Export your movie to disk.

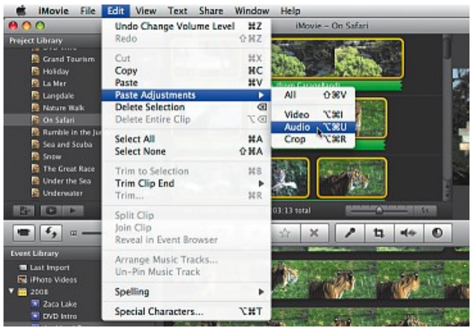
Video Settings: Expert Setting

You can choose your own custom compression settings to export your project. Your final file size will depend on the options you choose.

09 When your alterations are complete, it's time to export your audio back to *iMovie*. Go to Share > Export Movie to Disc. Select **Expert Setting** and click on **Export**. You will then be presented with a *QuickTime* export window that should already be set to export your work to AIFF, at 44.1kHz 16-bit stereo.

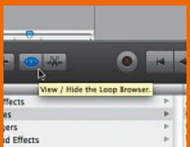

Desktop
DEVICES
iDisk
Macintosh HD
Network…
PLACES
Desktop
steveparis
Writing
Screenshots
Pictures
Movies
Music
Applications
SEARCH FOR
Today
Yesterday
Past Week
AIFC
Safari Soundtrack (from GarageBand).aif
Safari Soundtrack
On Safari.aif
1 of 3 selected, 3.5 GB available

10 Drag the newly modified audio track from *Finder* onto your *iMovie* project. Make sure the background isn't green by moving the mouse over the first clip. Also, make sure the red playhead is placed at the very beginning of the project to avoid syncing problems. We're nearly done: we just need to remove the original sound.


iMovie
File
Edit
View
Text
Share
Window
Help
Undo Change Volume Level ⌘Z
Redo ⇧⌘Z
Cut ⌘X
Copy ⌘C
Paste ⌘V
Paste Adjustments
All ⇧⌘V
Video ⌥⌘I
Audio ⌥⌘U
Crop ⌥⌘R
Delete Selection
Delete Entire Clip
Select All ⌘A
Select None ⇧⌘A
Trim to Selection ⌘B
Trim Clip End
Trim… ⌘R
Split Clip
Join Clip
Reveal in Event Browser
Arrange Music Tracks…
Un-Pin Music Track
Spelling
Special Characters… ⌥⌘T
iMovie – On Safari
Project Library
Event Library

11 Mouse over the first clip to reveal editing icons. Click on the **Speaker** icon, top left of the clip. Drag the **Volume** slider to the left, muting it and close the **Audio Adjustment** window. Go to Edit > Copy. Next, go to Edit > Select All to highlight all of your project's footage. Finally, go to Edit > Paste Adjustments > Audio, to mute it all. ●

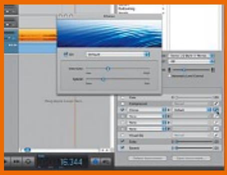
TOOL SCHOOL


View / Hide the Loop Browser

To create your own music using the bundled royalty-free loops in *GarageBand*, click on the Eye button, bottom-left of the interface and drag the ones you wish to use.

EXPERT TIP

You can customise an effect in *GarageBand* by clicking on the small pencil icon to the right of the pulldown menu described in Step 8.



Add effects to your footage

Have fun with your movie clips using iMovie '09's new video effects

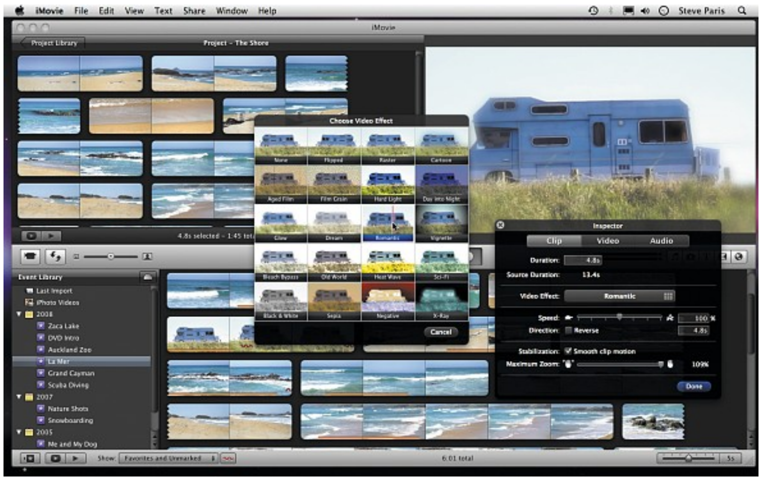
WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- Apple *iMovie '09* (£69, part of *iLife '09*, **http://store.apple.com/uk**)
- G5 Mac (Intel Mac required for all effects to be available).
- Mac OS X 10.5.6 Leopard

One of the biggest failings of *iMovie '08* was its lack of video effects. After having been spoilt in the previous versions, getting an update with all of them removed was a sore point. Of course, some found ways around the problem, like making use of filters hidden inside the *QuickTime* **Export** feature, but none was as easy or intuitive as having effects available from within the application.

Well, after a year and a half of being stuck with *iLife '08*, *iMovie '09* sees the return of video effects. – although, it isn't obvious at first glance that they are available at all. For instance, transitions and titles have their own button in the toolbar, right next to music and sound effects, a link to your photo libraries and the brand new **Map** feature. Clicking on any of these buttons will reveal a section displaying all available options. But where are the ones to apply to the video?

They reside within the **Inspector**, a window that changes its content depending on what item is highlighted. When a clip is selected, the video effects can be reached from there. Not only can you add a vignette or sepia effect with ease, but you can also speed up or slow down your footage, a staple of *iMovie* since version 1.0 but lacking in *iMovie '08*. Also, a new and powerful feature has been added: image stabilisation. With it you can take a handheld moving shot and make it look like it was shot using expensive steadycam equipment.


iMovie
File
Edit
View
Text
Share
Window
Help
Steve Paris
Project Library
Project - The Shore
Choose Video Effect
Event Library
Inspector
Clip
Video
Audio
Done

All the new effects you can experiment with in the latest '09 version of *iMovie* reside in the **Inspector** window.

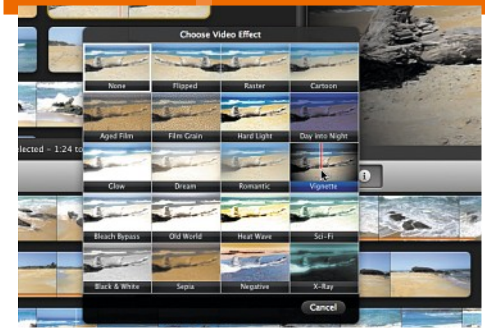
> "After a year and a half of being stuck with the iLife '08 suite, iMovie '09 sees the return of video effects"

There still isn't any possibility for third-party companies to create new effects that can be added to the default list, but at least this is a step in the right direction, and it's great to finally be able to have a little fun with our clips once again.

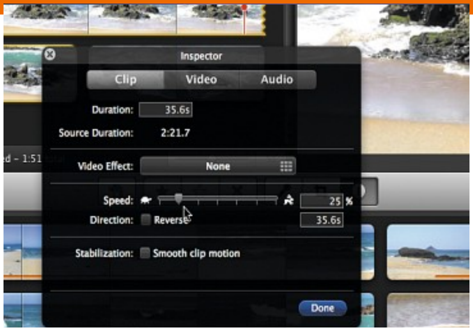
But *iMovie* has more tools than just fancy visual effects: you also have the ability to alter the clip's colour balance with its **Image Adjustment** tools. These are simple to use and rely on sliders to alter the way your shot looks. With them you can salvage potentially great footage that was let down by bad lighting or an improperly calibrated camcorder.

We'll show you how easy these effects are to use over the next two pages.
Steve Paris

STEP BY STEP Add an effect to your movie clip

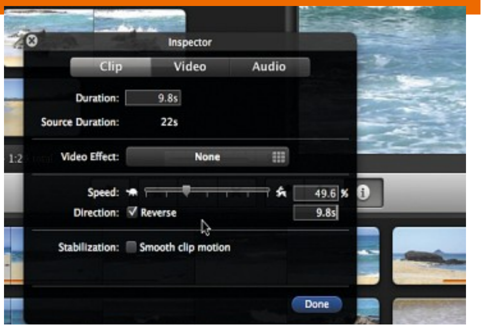

Choose Video Effect
None
Flipped
Raster
Cartoon
Aged Film
Film Grain
Hard Light
Day into Night
Glow
Dream
Romantic
Vignette
Bleach Bypass
Old World
Heat Wave
Sci-Fi
Black & White
Sepia
Negative
X-Ray
Cancel

01 Double-click on a clip to reveal the **Clip Inspector**. To add an effect, click on that window's **Video Effect** button. You can preview each one by skimming over it and seeing the results in *iMovie*'s **Viewer** section. To apply one to your clip, click on it. You cannot alter the effect in any way, and you are also limited to one effect per clip.


Inspector
Clip
Video
Audio
Done

Duration: 35.6s
Source Duration: 2:21.7
Video Effect: None
Speed: 25 %
Direction: ☐ Reverse 35.6s
Stabilization: ☐ Smooth clip motion

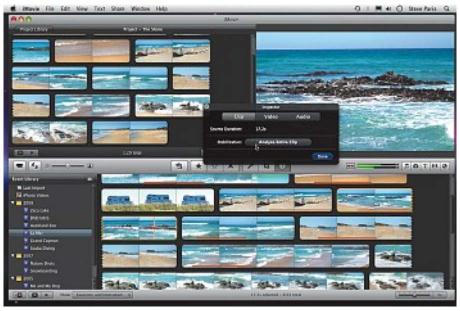
02 To speed up or slow down your footage, *iMovie* must first analyse it. Click on the **Convert Entire Clip** button. After a few seconds, that button turns into a slider. Drag it to the left towards the tortoise to slow the clip down and to the right towards the hare to speed it up. The slider only moves to specific values like 25% or 200%.


Inspector
Clip
Video
Audio
Done

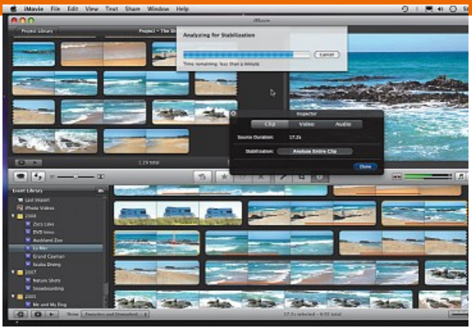
Duration: 9.8s
Source Duration: 22s
Video Effect: None
Speed: 49.6 %
Direction: ☑ Reverse 9.8s
Stabilization: ☐ Smooth clip motion

03 To change the clip to fit an exact duration, click on the field directly beneath the percentage value (located to the right of the **Speed** slider). Type in a length in seconds and the clip will speed up or slow down to match its new speed. You could get that clip to play backwards by making sure the **Reverse** direction option is ticked.

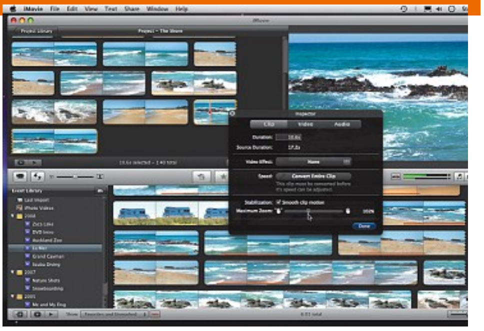
STEP BY STEP Add an effect to your movie clip. . . continued


Inspector
Clip
Video
Audio
Stabilization
Analyze Entire Clip
Done

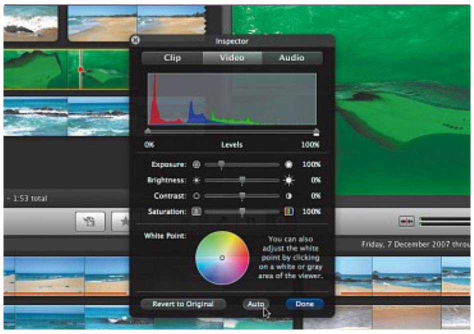
04 To see the new **Image Stabilisation** tool in action, start by selecting a clip in your **Event** library. Be aware, though, that this tool cannot perform miracles, and some movement may be so irregular and frequent that *iMovie* will be unable to do anything with it. Double-click on a clip to open the **Inspector** window.


Analyzing for Stabilization
Cancel
Inspector
Clip
Video
Audio
Stabilization
Analyze Entire Clip
Done

05 Click on the **Stabilise Entire Clip** option. This process can take a very long time; however, the results are often well worth it. Once **iMovie** has finished its analysis, nothing appears to have changed. Drag the clip to a project, however, and everything will change.

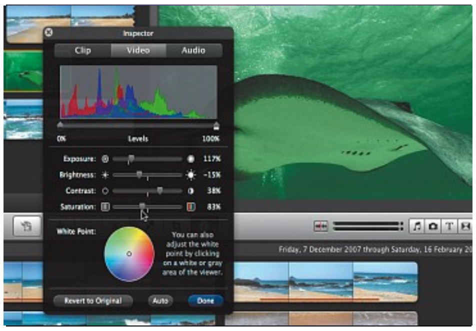

Inspector
Clip
Video
Audio
Convert Entire Clip
Stabilization
Smooth clip motion
Maximum Zoom
100%
Done

06 As you play the footage back, notice that the movement is smoother and slightly zoomed in compared to the original. Double-click on it to open the **Inspector** window. Slide **Maximum Zoom** slider at the bottom to the left to zoom out and increase the jagged motion. Moving the slider back to **100%** cancels the stabilisation.


Inspector
Clip
Video
Audio
Levels
Exposure:
Brightness:
Contrast:
Saturation:
White Point:
Revert to Original
Auto
Done
Friday, 7 December 2007 through

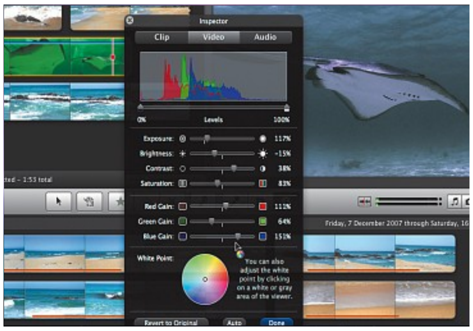
You can also adjust the white point by clicking on a white or gray area of the viewer.

07 Double-click on a clip to open the **Inspector** window. Select the **Video** tab to have access to powerful image correction tools similar to those in *iPhoto*. Click on the **Auto** button at the bottom of the window to have *iMovie* perform automatic adjustments. To cancel the adjustments, click on **Revert to Original** at any time.


Inspector
Clip
Video
Audio
Levels
Exposure:
Brightness:
Contrast:
Saturation:
White Point:
Revert to Original
Auto
Done
Friday, 7 December 2007 through Saturday, 16 February 20

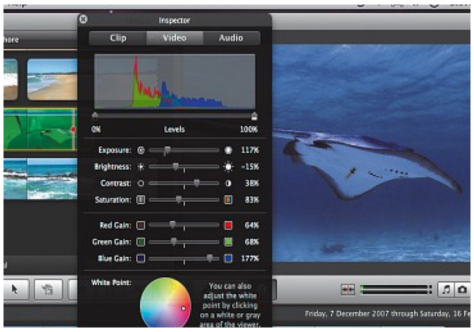
You can also adjust the white point by clicking on a white or gray area of the viewer.

08 A series of sliders offer you complete control over the clip's exposure, brightness, contrast and saturation. The **Levels** slider at the top has two little triangles. Move the left one to the right to darken light pixels, and move the one on the right to the left to lighten dark pixels. If all this still isn't enough, you can enable more advanced features.

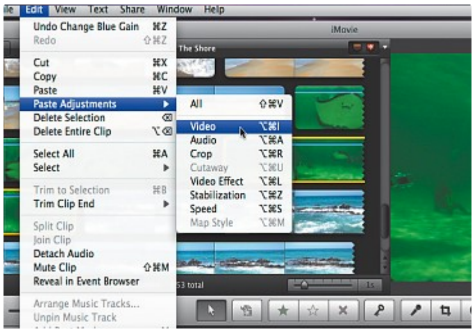

Inspector
Clip
Video
Audio
Levels
Exposure:
Brightness:
Contrast:
Saturation:
Red Gain:
Green Gain:
Blue Gain:
White Point:
Revert to Original
Auto
Done
Friday, 7 December 2007 through Saturday, 16

You can also adjust the white point by clicking on a white or gray area of the viewer.

09 In Preferences > General, make sure **Show Advanced Tools** is ticked. Close that window and go back to the **Inspector**'s **Video** tab. This time, three new sliders are now available. They allow you to control the image's individual colours and you can either tweak your clip to perfection or end up creating an interesting and unique look.

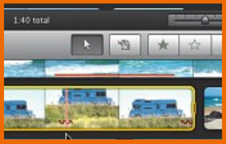

Inspector
Clip
Video
Audio
Levels
Exposure:
Brightness:
Contrast:
Saturation:
Red Gain:
Green Gain:
Blue Gain:
White Point:
Friday, 7 December 2007 through Saturday, 16 F

10 The last tool lets you perform a white balance on your clip. Usually, camcorders perform such balances automatically but sometimes get it wrong. To tell *iMovie* what should be white, move the cursor over your clip and click on a white or light grey section. Don't click on an overly bright area as this could skew the results.


Edit
View
Text
Share
Window
Help
Undo Change Blue Gain ⌘Z
Redo ⇧⌘Z
Cut ⌘X
Copy ⌘C
Paste ⌘V
Paste Adjustments
Delete Selection
Delete Entire Clip
Select All ⌘A
Select
Trim to Selection ⌘B
Trim Clip End
Split Clip
Join Clip
Detach Audio
Mute Clip ⇧⌘M
Reveal in Event Browser
Arrange Music Tracks...
Unpin Music Track
All ⇧⌘V
Video ⌥⌘I
Audio ⌥⌘A
Crop ⌥⌘R
Cutaway ⌥⌘U
Video Effect ⌥⌘L
Stabilization ⌥⌘Z
Speed ⌥⌘S
Map Style ⌥⌘M
iMovie
The Shore

11 Once a clip has been improved, you may wish to apply those same changes to other footage taken at the same time: *iMovie* can handle this with a couple of visits to the menu bar: select your modified clip and go to Edit > Copy. Next, select the other clips you'd like to modify and go to Edit > Paste Adjustments > Video. ●

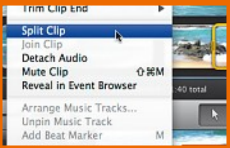
TOOL SCHOOL

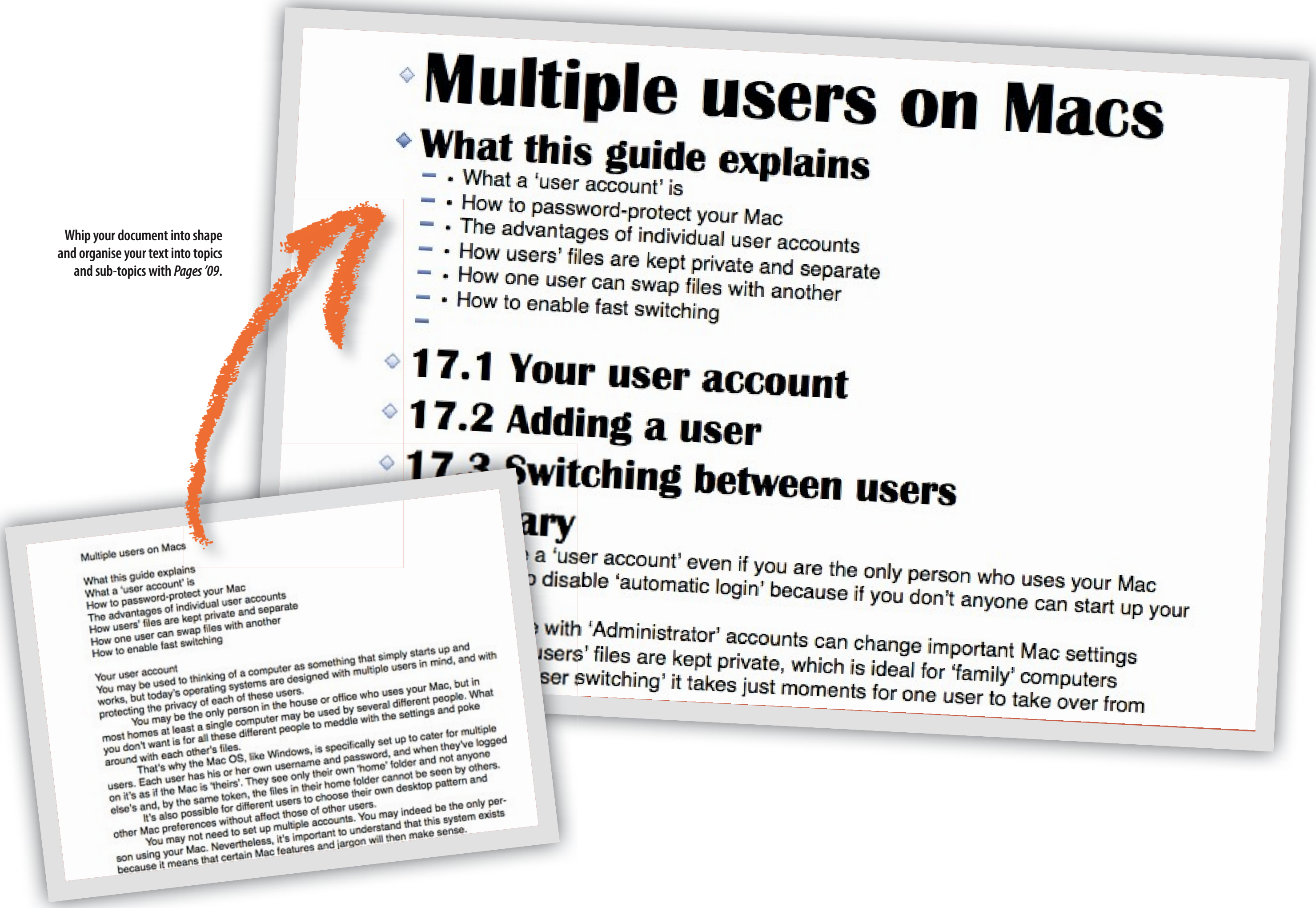


When stabilising footage, you may notice a red wavy line across the clip. This signifies that *iMovie* was unable to remove all of the movement.

EXPERT TIP

To add an effect to part of a clip, you need to split it. Highlight the section you wish to cut. Go to Edit > Split Clip and add an effect to any part.


Trim Clip End
Split Clip
Join Clip
Detach Audio
Mute Clip ⇧⌘M
Reveal in Event Browser
Arrange Music Tracks...
Unpin Music Track
Add Beat Marker M
40 total



Multiple users on Macs

What this guide explains

- What a 'user account' is
- How to password-protect your Mac
- The advantages of individual user accounts
- How users' files are kept private and separate
- How one user can swap files with another
- How to enable fast switching

17.1 Your user account

17.2 Adding a user

17.3 Switching between users

ary

a 'user account' even if you are the only person who uses your Mac

o disable 'automatic login' because if you don't anyone can start up your

with 'Administrator' accounts can change important Mac settings

sers' files are kept private, which is ideal for 'family' computers

ser switching' it takes just moments for one user to take over from

Multiple users on Macs

What this guide explains
What a 'user account' is
How to password-protect your Mac
The advantages of individual user accounts
How users' files are kept private and separate
How one user can swap files with another
How to enable fast switching

Your user account
You may be used to thinking of a computer as something that simply starts up and
works, but today's operating systems are designed with multiple users in mind, and with
protecting the privacy of each of these users.
You may be the only person in the house or office who uses your Mac, but in
most homes at least a single computer may be used by several different people. What
you don't want is for all these different people to meddle with the settings and poke
around with each other's files.
That's why the Mac OS, like Windows, is specifically set up to cater for multiple
users. Each user has his or her own username and password, and when they've logged
on it's as if the Mac is 'theirs'. They see only their own 'home' folder and not anyone
else's and, by the same token, the files in their home folder cannot be seen by others.
It's also possible for different users to choose their own desktop pattern and
other Mac preferences without affect those of other users.
You may not need to set up multiple accounts. You may indeed be the only per-
son using your Mac. Nevertheless, it's important to understand that this system exists
because it means that certain Mac features and jargon will then make sense.

Whip your document into shape and organise your text into topics and sub-topics with *Pages '09*.

Use outlining in Pages '09

Outlining is one of the big new features in Pages '09, but what is it and what's it for?

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- Apple *iWork '09* full product (£69) or trial (free, **www.apple.com/uk/iwork**)
- A plain text document to work on
- 30 minutes of your time

Outlining is a way of structuring your document into a series of topics and sub-topics. It's good practice to organise ideas and topics into a logical structure, managing them as 'objects' rather than just sections of text.

Some writers don't use outlining and don't see the need for it, while others can't imagine writing without it. Until now, it's been one of the few remaining advantages Microsoft *Word* had over *Pages*. But, now, all that's changed.

The basics of how it works are really simple. Your document consists of a series of headings at different levels. You might have a heading at level 1 which contains sub-headings at level 2, and these might contain their own level 3 sub-headings… right down to a maximum of 9 levels. In practice, you're not ever likely to need this many outline levels – and if you do it's probably a good sign that you need to simplify what you're doing.

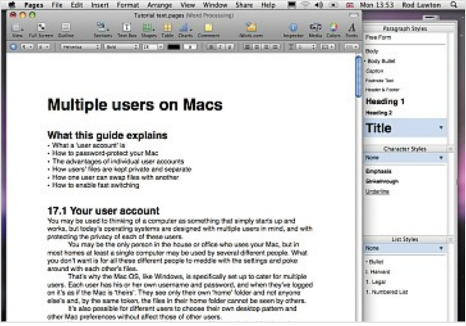
> "If you're working on a very long document you can collapse the outline to show just the main headings "

On its own, that might not sound particularly useful, but there's more. Each heading can be collapsed or expanded to show its contents. The advantage of this is that if you're working on a very long document you can collapse the outline to show just the main headings, then expand only the section you want to work on, as shown in our before-and-after screenshots.

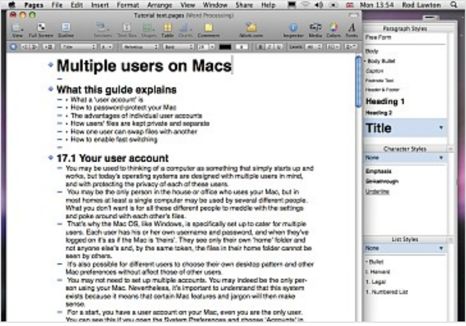
Furthermore, when you select a heading you also select all its sub-headings and their contents. You can then drag the whole lot up or down your document or 'promote' or 'demote' the heading and its contents. Follow our walkthrough, which shows how this and more is done.

Rod Lawton

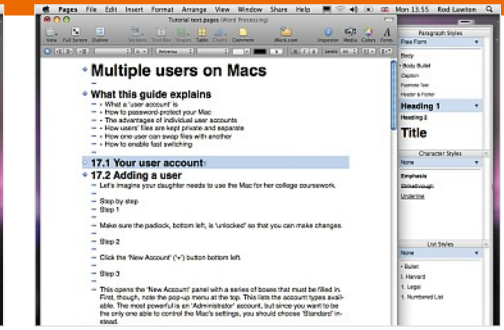
STEP BY STEP Structuring a document in Pages '09



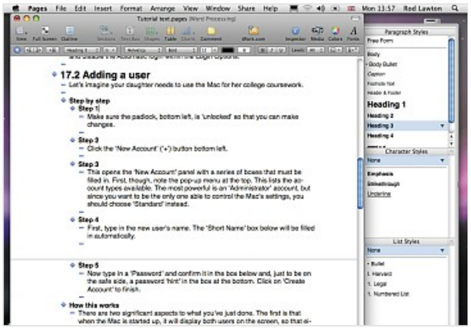
01 This is how a text document might normally look in *Pages*. It's a section of a manual on Macs for beginners, and, at the moment, very few text styles have been applied. It's a long document, and even though styling the headings will make them easier to spot, it's still going to require a lot of scrolling to find any specific sections.



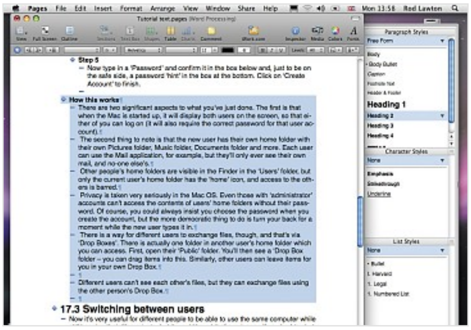
02 But if you use the new View > Show Document Outline command, this is what you'll see. The body copy paragraphs are marked with a dash, while headings have a diamond icon. This indicates that they are part of the outline hierarchy. Note too that in the **Styles** drawer the old **Heading** style now has numbered variants…



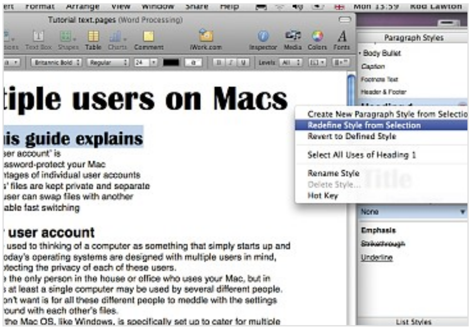
03 The selected heading has the **Heading 1** style, indicating that it's at the top level in the outline hierarchy. Selecting the diamond alongside the heading selects the heading as well as the text below it, up to the next instance of a level 1 heading. Double-clicking the diamond collapses these contents displaying only the heading.



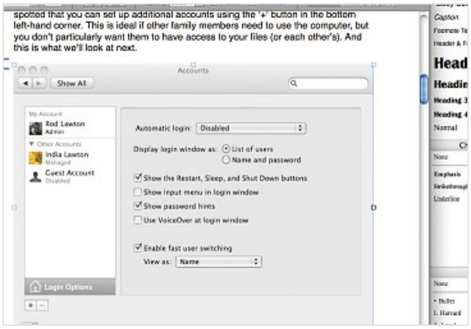
04 When you use the **Heading 1** style, *Pages* adds a **Heading 2** style to the **Styles** drawer. Use this to create a sub-heading on a level down the hierarchy, which is what we've done here. This, in turn, creates a **Heading 3** style, which we've used for each step. Promote or demote headings with the [Tab] and ⇧+[Tab] keys.



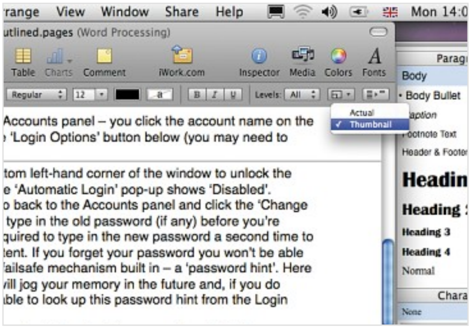
05 This might all seem a bit fussy, but it has a purpose. When documents are outlined in this way it becomes easier to manipulate sections. Here, for example, we can select the whole 'How this works' topic with a single mouse click to cut and paste or drag it to another location, or double-click the diamond to collapse it.



06 Outlines may still look muddled, because the default **Heading** styles from level 2 onwards are the same and are only distinguished by the amount they are indented. That's easily fixed, as you can apply font, size and colours, then click the style's pop-up in the **Styles** draw to apply your changes.



07 Now anyone who's used outlining in Microsoft *Word* will spot that the *Pages* system is practically identical in its tools, operation and even appearance (no bad thing – *Word*'s system has long set the standard). But *Pages '09* can do one thing that *Word* can't. *Word* doesn't display images in its outline mode, but *Pages* does…

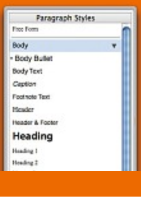


Accounts panel – you click the account name on the
'Login Options' button below (you may need to

tom left-hand corner of the window to unlock the
e 'Automatic Login' pop-up shows 'Disabled'.
o back to the Accounts panel and click the 'Change
type in the old password (if any) before you're
quired to type in the new password a second time to
ent. If you forget your password you won't be able
ailsafe mechanism built in – a 'password hint'. Here
ill jog your memory in the future and, if you do
ble to look up this password hint from the Login

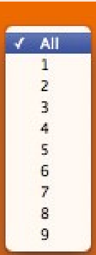
08 Microsoft may consider that outline mode is for bare-bones content structuring, but *Pages* has an answer for this too: in **Outline** view, there's a pop-up on the toolbar, which enables you to display images as thumbnails. This doesn't affect their size in the document – if you switch to normal view they're back to size again. ●

TOOL SCHOOL

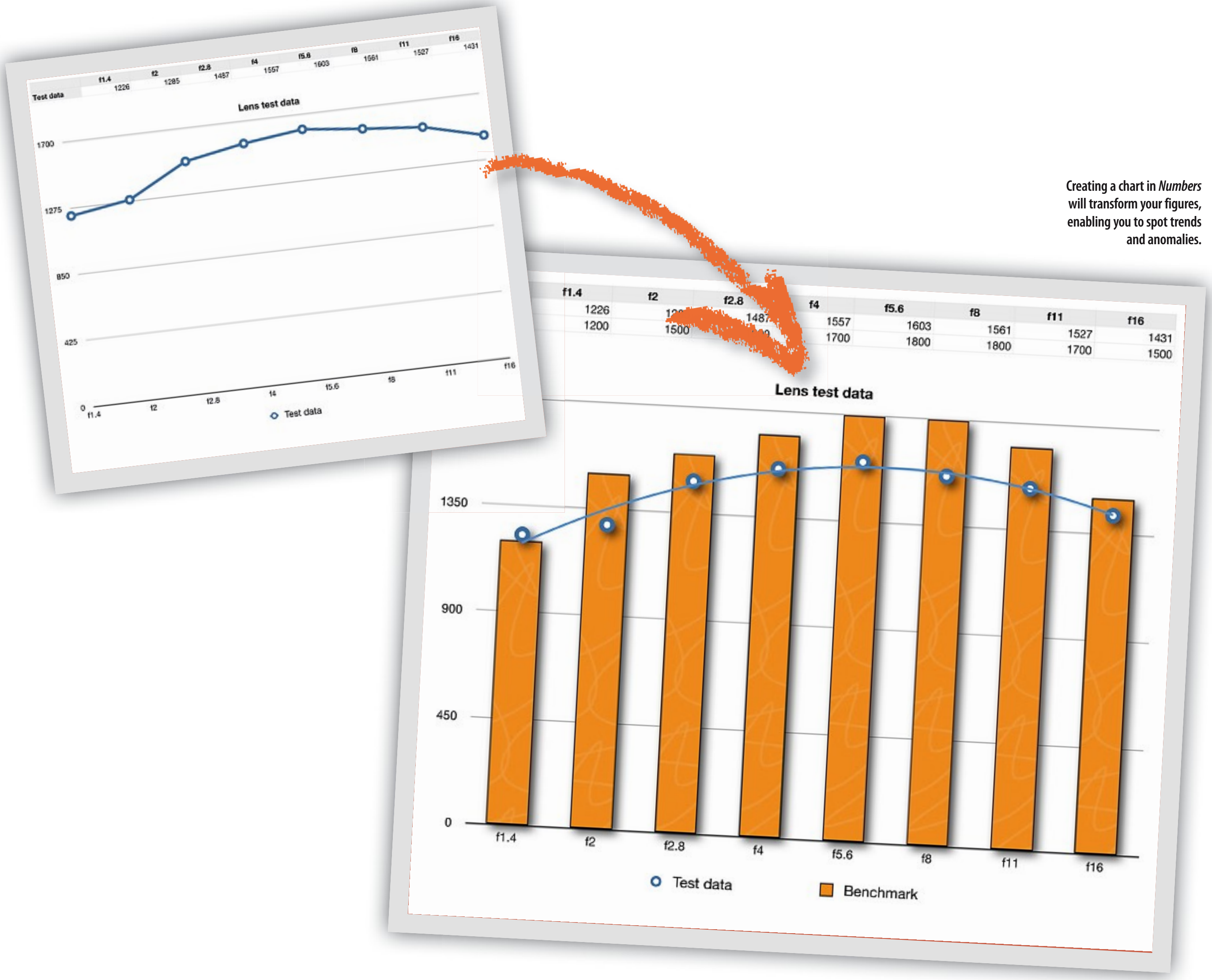


Body, Body Bullet and other regular *Pages* styles are not part of the outline hierarchy, but they will belong to any outline heading they're placed under.

EXPERT TIP



You don't have to manually collapse all the headings in your document to the level you want to view them at – use the pop-up Levels menu on the toolbar to do this instead.



Creating a chart in *Numbers* will transform your figures, enabling you to spot trends and anomalies.

Use chart types in Numbers

The new chart types and tools in Numbers '09 will help you make better sense of your data

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- Apple *iWork '09* full product (£69) or trial (free, **www.apple.com/uk/iwork**)
- Experimental data to use in a chart
- A second data series for comparison

Charts aren't just pretty things for livening up your spreadsheets! Often, they're essential for properly grasping the meaning of your data. It's not until you see your figures represented graphically that you start to see trends, anomalies and relationships. And *Numbers '09* offers significant improvements in two areas.

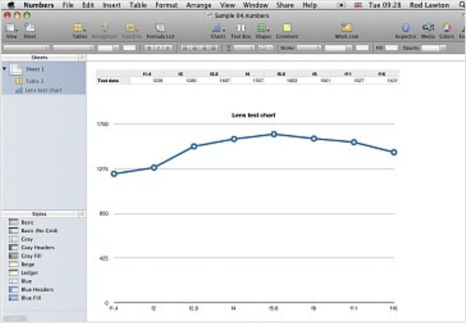
First, the provision of error bars and trendlines. Experimental data is often taken as concrete fact, especially when the numbers are enshrined in a spreadsheet. However, as any researcher will concede, there is always a degree of experimental error and uncertainty. Error bars are a means of showing the level of uncertainty around any given data point, and they act as a reminder to the viewer that the data can only be regarded as a good estimate. Trendlines achieve a similar thing in a different way. They use the series of values to calculate and display a smooth trend. This is useful where you can be sure there is an underlying trend, but where you can allow for some experimental error in the individual data points.

> "It's not until you see your figures represented graphically that you start to see trends"

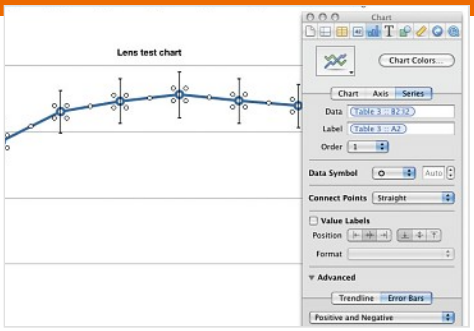
Second, there are two new chart types. These include 'mixed' charts which enable different data series to be displayed differently: one as a line chart, for example, and the other as a data chart. 'Twin axis' charts, meanwhile, enable you to use a single horizontal axis but display two data series, one with its own vertical axis on the left and a second with a different vertical axis on the right. We cover mixed charts in our walkthrough, but twin axis charts are rather more specialised and will have to wait for another time.

Rod Lawton

STEP BY STEP Working with mixed charts and trendlines


Lens test chart

01 This chart shows the resolution figures produced by an optical device at different lens apertures – the lens aperture is the horizontal axis and the resolution is the vertical axis. A line chart is perfect for this, but the problem is that we have a jagged line because of experimental errors or variations in the measurement system.


Lens test chart
Chart Colors...
Chart
Axis
Series
Data Symbol
Connect Points
Straight
Value Labels
Advanced
Trendline
Error Bars
Positive and Negative

02 Where there is uncertainty about the data's accuracy, the new error bars in *Numbers '09* could prove invaluable. First, select the data series by clicking on the line. Next, click on the **Series** button in the **Chart Inspector**. Near the bottom is a new **Advanced** section with the option of adding error bars using fixed or percentage values.

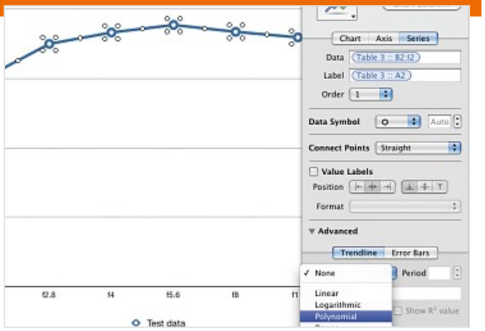
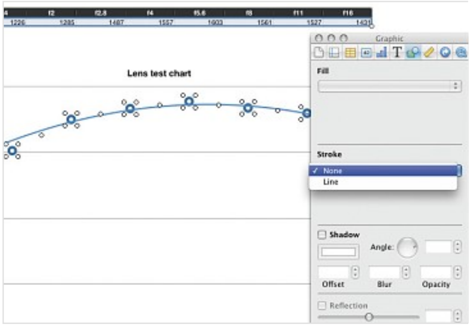
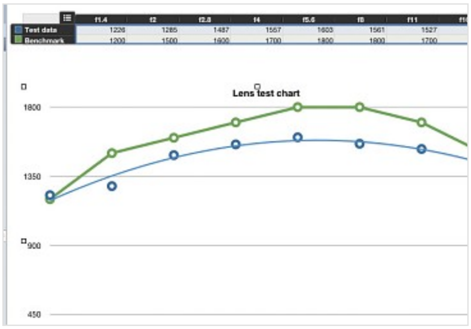


Chart
Axis
Series
Data Symbol
Connect Points
Straight
Value Labels
Advanced
Trendline
Error Bars
None
Linear
Logarithmic
Polynomial
Period
Show R² value
Test data

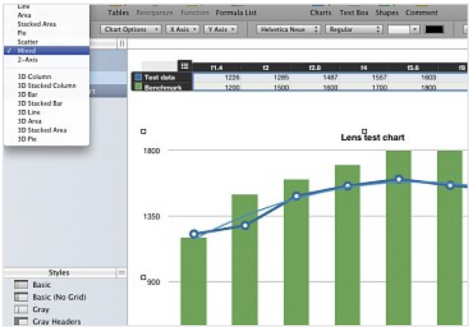
03 But while error bars are ideal for indicating the range of errors, they're no good for showing underlying trends. That's where the new trendline feature comes in. You have to match the trendline type to the data, and in this case, we're expecting a curve with a peak in the middle, which is a Polynomial curve (2nd order).


Lens test chart
Graphic
Fill
Stroke
None
Line
Shadow
Angle:
Offset
Blur
Opacity
Reflection

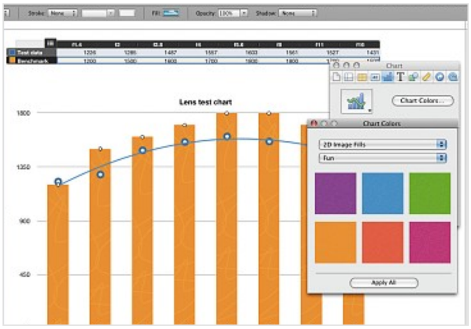
04 *Numbers '09* now calculates and displays a smooth trendline through the data points. The original line is still displayed, however, and now it's getting in the way. To fix this, with the series still selected, switch to the **Graphic Inspector** and set the **Stroke** pop-up to **None**. This just leaves the data points and the trendline on the chart.


Test data
Benchmark
Lens test chart
1800
1350
900
450

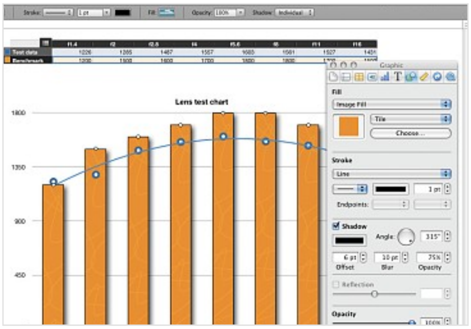
05 So far so good. But this data doesn't mean much in isolation. In this instance we want to compare it with benchmark figures required for this kind of device. These are added to the data table, and appear on the chart as a second data series (the green one here). The difference between the data and the benchmark still isn't clear, though…


Mixed
Test data
Benchmark
Lens test chart
1800
1350
900
Styles

06 To put this right we need to switch to the mixed-chart type that is new in *Numbers '09*. (Use the pop-up at the far left of the toolbar for this, not the larger button in the centre – this will create a new chart instead.) By default, the second data series is displayed as a bar chart, which stands out much better against our experimental data.


Lens test chart
Chart Colors...
Chart Colors
2D Image Fills
Apply All

07 And that's really all there is to it. At this point, though, it's worth highlighting a couple of options that can make a difference to a chart's appearance. First, if you go to the **Chart Inspector** and click the **Chart Colours** button, you'll find a selection of 2D colours and texture fills you can drag onto a data series to change its appearance.

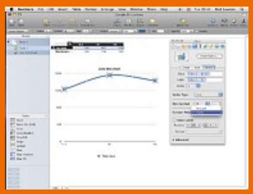

Lens test chart
Graphic
Fill
Image Fill
Tile
Choose...
Stroke
Line
1 pt
Shadow
Angle:
Reflection
Opacity

08 Second, you can select any data series then go to the **Graphic Inspector** and change its properties. That's what we've done here with the bar chart, which now stands out much better thanks to a 1pt black stroke and a drop shadow. It's also possible to apply image fills, which can be either tiled or scaled to fit. ●

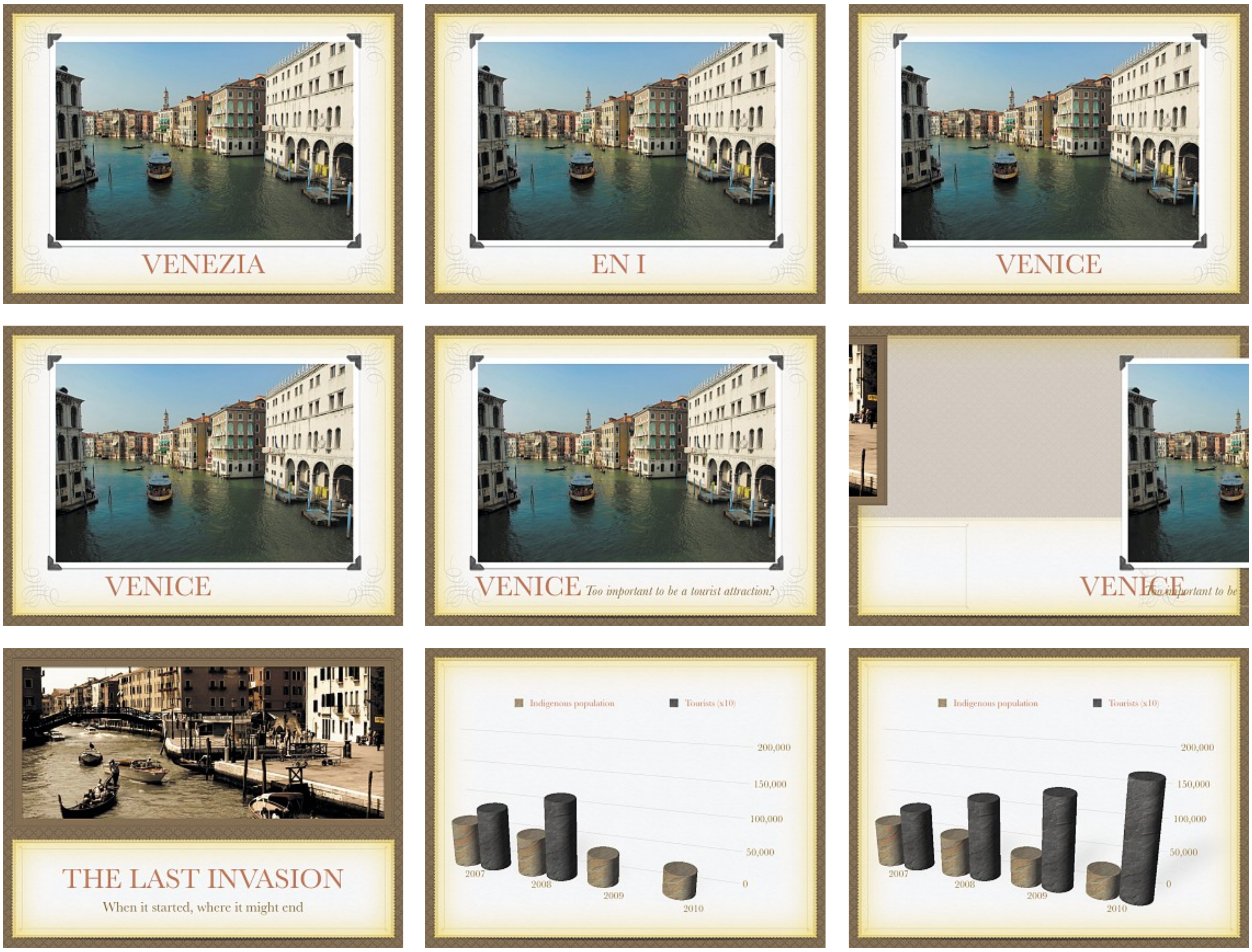
TOOL SCHOOL

This is where you can make any adjustments to the data series in your charts, including its type (Line, Bar, Area), error bars and the trendlines.

EXPERT TIP



You don't have to use trendlines to produce curved lines. If you only have a few data points but you're sure of their accuracy, go to the Series panel and set the Connect Points pop-up to Curve.


VENEZIA
EN I
VENICE
VENICE
VENICE Too important to be a tourist attraction?
VENICE Too important to be
THE LAST INVASION
When it started, where it might end
Indigenous population
Tourists (x10)
200,000
150,000
100,000
50,000
0
2007
2008
2009
2010

The latest *Keynote '09* shows off some major improvements.

Use transitions in Keynote '09

The new transitions in Keynote '09 add polish to your presentations and they're simple to use…

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- Apple *iWork '09* full product (£69) or trial (free, **www.apple.com/uk/iwork**)
- Basic presentation slides to get started
- Data for a 3D chart

Apple's *Keynote '08* already seems about as slick as a presentation tool can get, so what could possibly be done in *Keynote '09* to make it even better?

Well, there are two things: make it do more and make it easier to use. And Apple's done a bit of both.

The main additions are some new transitions that manipulate individual objects on your slides rather than fading or wiping one slide into another. Previously, this would have meant digging deeper into the toolset to find out about object animations and 'builds'.

> "The new transitions fall into three categories: Text Effects, Magic Move and Object Effects"

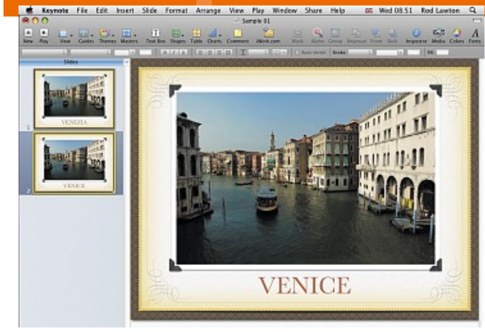
The new transitions fall into three categories: **Text Effects** change the appearance of text between slides, **Magic Move** effects move objects between slides in a simple and intuitive way and **Object Effects** apply animation effects to the objects on a slide as you move from one to another – it's like being able to apply 'builds' to all your objects with one mouse click rather than having to plod through a dozen individual operations.

Lastly, there have been some enhancements to 3D charts. These include new cylinder shapes for bar charts, new **Concrete**, **Granite** and **Slate** texture fills, and tools that enable you to build 3D charts using animation effects.

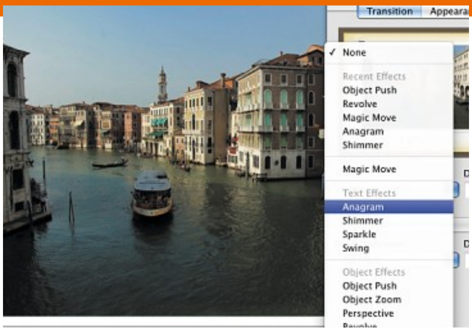
The presentation used for our walkthrough incorporates all these new tools and features, and it's based on one of *Keynote*'s new themes, too – **Venetian**.

Rod Lawton

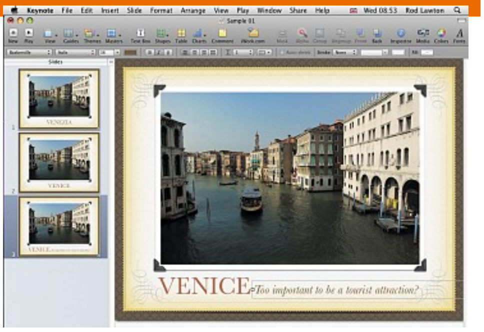
STEP BY STEP Adjusting text effects and building 3D charts


VENICE
VENEZIA

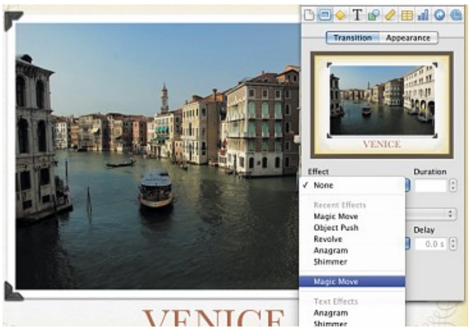
01 We'll start with a **Text Effect**. Our first slide has the title 'Venezia', which we want to change to 'Venice' in the next slide. For these text effects to work, the new slide has to have the same text object, and the simplest way to achieve this is to duplicate the original slide and then change the text in the duplicate.


Transition
Appeara
None
Recent Effects
Object Push
Revolve
Magic Move
Anagram
Shimmer
Magic Move
Text Effects
Anagram
Shimmer
Sparkle
Swing
Object Effects
Object Push
Object Zoom
Perspective

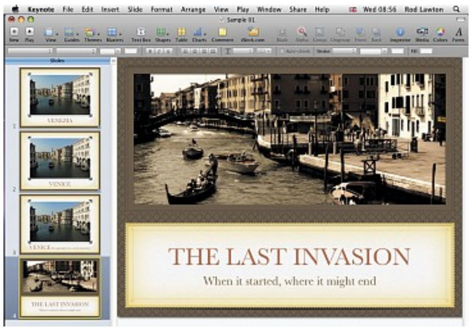
02 Next, you select the first slide, open the **Transition** panel and choose one of the **Text Effects** in the pop-up **Effects** menu. We've chosen **Anagram**, and what this does is to rearrange any letters common to both text boxes as the first slide changes to the second. This will work with more than one text box at a time, too.


VENICE
Too important to be a tourist attraction?

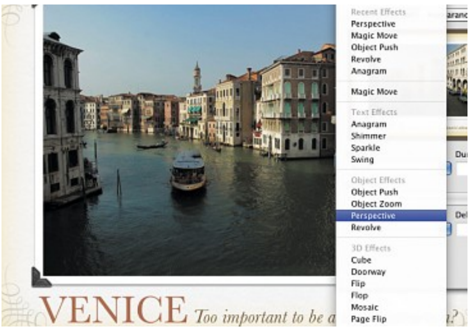
03 What we want to do next is move the 'Venice' title to the left and add a subtitle to the right. Again, the first thing to do is duplicate the slide. Next, we move the title box to its new position and add the subtitle. This is a new text object, which *Keynote* will fade in – it won't be part of the **Magic Move** effect we're about to apply.


Transition
Appearance
VENICE
Effect
Duration
None
Recent Effects
Magic Move
Object Push
Revolve
Anagram
Shimmer
Delay
0.0 s
Magic Move
Text Effects
Anagram
Shimmer
VENICE

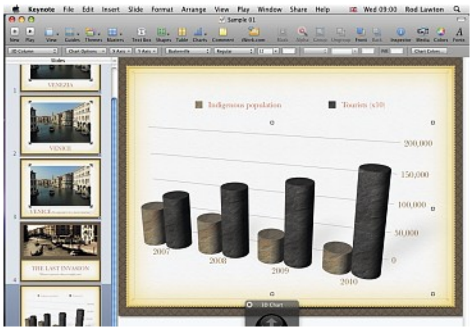
04 **Magic Move** is a standalone entry on the pop-up **Effects** menu. It identifies objects that are common to both slides and moves them to their new position. There are no parameters, though you can alter the duration of the effect. **Magic Move** also works with objects that are scaled – you can move and 'zoom' an object at the same time.


THE LAST INVASION
When it started, where it might end

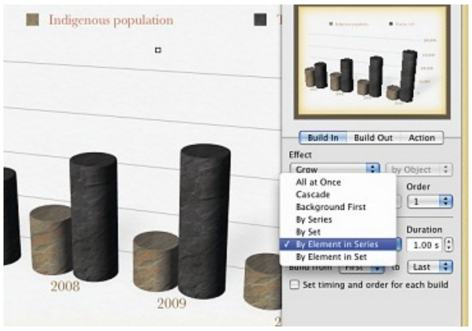
05 The next slide in our presentation is completely different. There are no common elements, so the **Text** and **Magic Move** effects won't work. But we still want to animate all the objects individually rather than applying an overall slide transition. For this we need one of the **Object Effects** on the **Effects** menu…


Recent Effects
Perspective
Magic Move
Object Push
Revolve
Anagram
Magic Move
Text Effects
Anagram
Shimmer
Sparkle
Swing
Object Effects
Object Push
Object Zoom
Perspective
Revolve
3D Effects
Cube
Doorway
Flip
Flop
Mosaic
Page Flip
VENICE
Too important to be a

06 Remember, though, that transition effects are applied to the slide you're transitioning *from*, so you need to select the previous slide to set up the effect. There is a range of options here: two effects have no parameters (**Perspective**, **Zoom**) but with the other two (**Push**, **Revolve**) you can change the direction.


Indigenous population
Tourists (x10)
200,000
150,000
100,000
50,000
0
2007
2008
2009
2010

07 This slide contains a 3D chart, which uses *Keynote '09*'s new cylinder bar shape and granite/slate texture fills. Note the 3D rotation gadget that appears when the chart is selected – you can use this to change the viewpoint. By default, the chart will appear in one go as a single object, but you can change this with a build effect…


Indigenous population
2008
2009
Build In
Build Out
Action
Effect
Grow
by Object
All at Once
Cascade
Background First
By Series
By Set
By Element in Series
By Element in Set
Order
1
Duration
1.00 s
First
to
Last
Set timing and order for each build

08 This means swapping from the **Slide Inspector** to the **Build Inspector**. There are five 3D effects you can choose from the **Effects** menu. The one we've selected (**Grow**) provides several options on the **Delivery** menu. Here, we have each item (cylinder) appear individually (so we can explain each bit of data as it appears.) ●

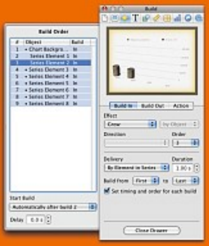
TOOL SCHOOL

Transition
Appearance
VENEZIA

This is where you find *Keynote '09*'s new transitions. Note that there is now some crossover with builds because these new transitions can animate individual objects too.

EXPERT TIP

Our walkthrough shows how to build a 3D chart item by item. By default, each build waits for a mouse click, but you can adjust the individual timings to suit, using the **More Options** drawer.


Build Order
Build In
Build Out
Action
Close Drawer

OS X SURVIVAL SKILLS

Protect from power cuts

A backup power supply can be the difference between a working Mac and a trip to the workshop

PROFILE

Name: Trevor Middleton
Occupation: Consultant and trainer
System: 24-inch iMac (2.4GHz), MacBook (2.16GHz), Power Macintosh G4 tower (1GHz, FireWire 800).

The other evening, I was working late when the power to the whole street went down. Now, of all the things that could happen to your Mac, having the power supply suddenly removed is one of the worst. Why? Well, think of the hard disk inside any Mac, its metal platters spinning away at 7200rpm (the most common spin speed of the hard disk in a desktop Mac) when all of a sudden someone, or something, slams on the brakes. To put that in familiar terms, if those platters were wheels travelling along the road, they'd be doing somewhere just under 75 miles per hour. So, imagine doing an emergency stop in the fast lane of the motorway at just over the speed limit and that's what happens inside the casing of a hard disk when the power's turned off.

The answer? Well, more and more home users are discovering the benefits of having some kind of backup power supply, usually called an Uninterruptible Power Supply, or UPS. These supplies have been in use in offices for many years and, with the price of the cheapest ones dropping to £30, it makes sense for the home to have one as well.

A UPS is one or more rechargeable batteries (more often than not lead-acid, for those of you who are concerned about the environmental impact of these things) inside a robust casing to which you connect your mains electricity supply. It's then a matter of plugging your equipment into the mains socket – or sockets – supplied on the UPS casing. Then, if you do have a power cut, the batteries will give you somewhere between ten minutes and half an hour (depending on their capacity) to save your work and shut down your Mac (and the rest of your stuff) safely.

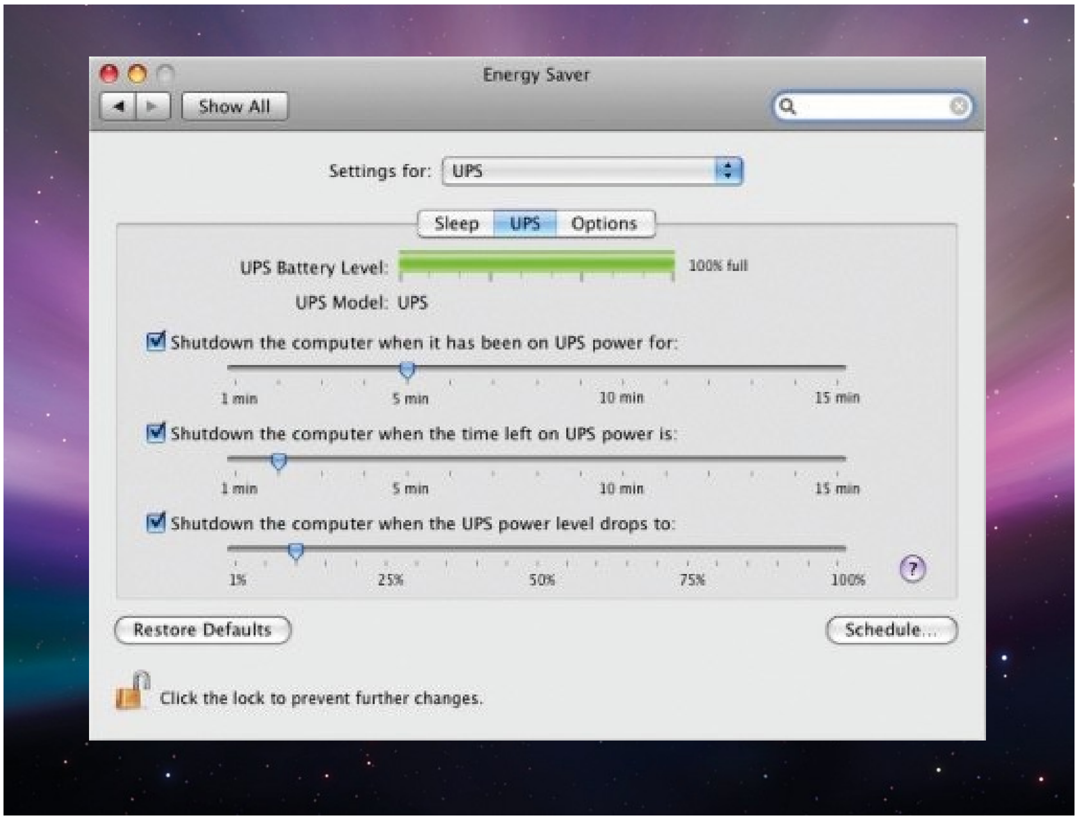
> "More and more home users are discovering the benefits of having some kind of backup power supply"

Think before you buy

If you're thinking of buying a UPS there are a couple of things to think about. First, make sure you buy one that will handle all the equipment you want to connect to it, ideally with capacity to spare. If you're unsure, find out the wattage (W) of each piece of kit – either from its manual, or from the voltage plate on the item itself – and add them all together. I usually multiply this by one-and-a-half to give me the minimum wattage that the UPS should support. There's no problem plugging multi-socket extension leads into a UPS, as long as a) they don't exceed the total capacity (3120W) of the individual wall socket b) the total load doesn't exceed that supported by the UPS, and c) they'll physically fit onto the sockets on the UPS, which can be closely spaced.

The other thing to consider when you're buying a UPS is whether you want one that can be managed by software. These units usually have a control interface that plugs into a Mac or PC, and a software utility that takes over the task of powering down your equipment safely after a power cut. Some of these managed ones can't be used on a Mac, as they have only an RS-232 serial interface, but most modern units have a USB port. In this case, you don't need to install management software on your Mac, as Mac OS X includes a 'hidden' panel in the **Energy Saver System Preferences** pane that appears when you plug a UPS into a USB port. This then allows you to set a time delay for shutting down your Mac once the UPS kicks in, or to shut it down when the power left in the UPS batteries is a length of time or a percentage you can specify.

Some units come with surge protection, in case there's a spike in the power supply, so if you don't already have surge-protected extension leads it's worth considering one of these devices. Admittedly, you're looking at spending £60–£70 but, weighed against the cost of a new Mac, or the time spent replacing a damaged hard disk, it's worth paying. ●



Settings for: UPS

UPS Battery Level: 100% full

UPS Model: UPS

☑ Shutdown the computer when it has been on UPS power for:

☑ Shutdown the computer when the time left on UPS power is:

☑ Shutdown the computer when the UPS power level drops to:

Click the lock to prevent further changes.

Mac OS X's Energy Saver System Preferences pane allow you to manage your backup power supply.

CREATE YOUR OWN
business, photo gallery, crafts, blog, E-shop, family, hobby, wedding, forum, CV, club, music, community, travel...
WEBSITE

3 MONTHS FREE
WEB HOSTING

- ✓ Free £30 Google AdWords
- ✓ Free £50 Microsoft® adCenter
- ✓ Free webmail
- ✓ Free webalizer stats
- ✓ Full DNS control

LIMITED TIME OFFER

Whatever you want to do, getting your website online is easy with 123-reg

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Use the iPlayer app on a Mac

Download videos from the BBC's iPlayer service for later viewing…

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- An Intel-based Mac
- A UK internet connection (or a proxy)
- Enough hard-drive space for your downloads

When launched to the public back in February 2006, BBC's iPlayer proved popular with everyone. Or at least, with everyone running Windows. Mac and Linux users had to wait until the following October before we could use iPlayer, and, even then, it was only by streaming through the website. It wasn't until last December that the desktop application and downloadable programme content became available to us too.

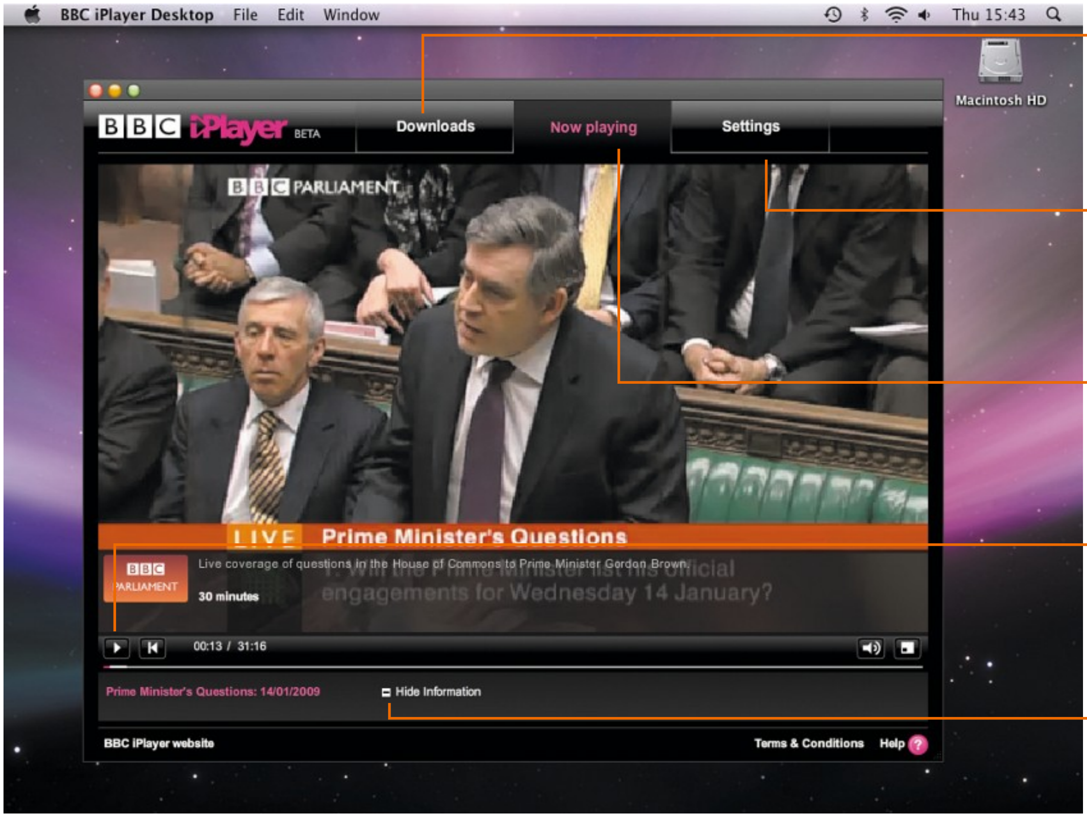
BBC iPlayer Desktop enables you to download BBC shows to your computer for later viewing. However, the service can only be accessed with a UK-based IP address, though savvy users, outside the UK, can use proxies. Also, built-in DRM means you can only hold onto a downloaded show for 30 days, or for seven days after you start watching it. And forget about transferring the file to a mobile media player, burning it to disc or watching it in another video app. The files are stored on your Mac but can only be viewed using the *iPlayer Desktop* app.

Despite restrictions, it's still a worthy asset. Not every BBC programme is available, and not every show that can be streamed is downloadable, but there's a wealth of material including radio broadcasts.

Ian Osborne

BBC iPlayer Desktop is finally available to Mac users, meaning you can download programs and watch them later offline.

TOP FEATURES | Finding your way around the BBC iPlayer Desktop application…


BBC iPlayer Desktop
File
Edit
Window
Thu 15:43
Macintosh HD
BBC iPlayer BETA
Downloads
Now playing
Settings
BBC PARLIAMENT
LIVE
Prime Minister's Questions
BBC PARLIAMENT
30 minutes
00:13 / 31:16
Prime Minister's Questions: 14/01/2009
Hide Information
BBC iPlayer website
Terms & Conditions
Help

Live coverage of questions in the House of Commons to Prime Minister Gordon Brown.

Monitor downloads
The **Downloads** screen shows what you're currently downloading, and also launches fully-downloaded programmes for viewing.

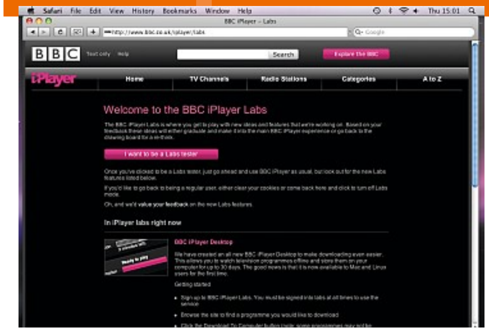
Change settings
Here you change settings such as **disc allocation.** You can also set up where downloads are stored, which is worth doing.

Now playing
Watch your shows from this tab. If nothing is playing, it can't be accessed manually – launch a show from the **Downloads** tab.

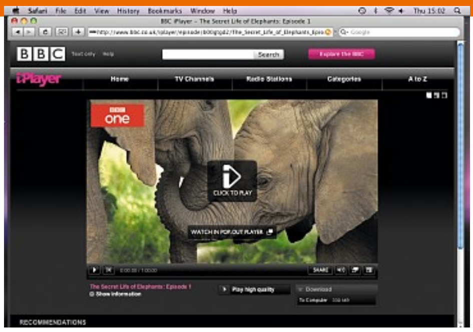
Control what you watch
The **Play** and **Restart** controls. There is no Fast Forward or Rewind, but you can use the slider to navigate your way through a show.

Show notes
Toggle between showing and hiding the programme notes that are shown above the controls.

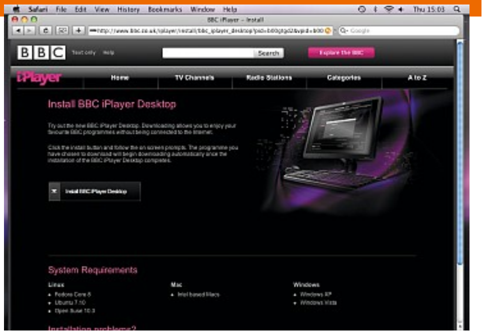
STEP BY STEP Downloading and using the BBC iPlayer Desktop app on a Mac



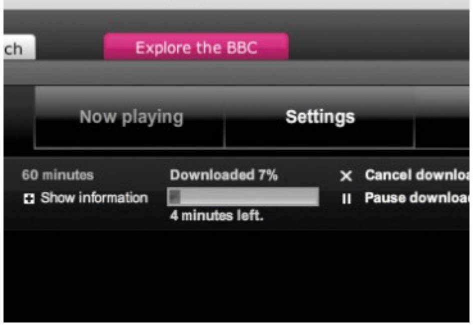
01 First of all, download the *BBC iPlayer Desktop* application. Because it's a beta offered through BBC iPlayer Labs, you have to sign up to be a Labs tester first. Go to **www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/labs** and click on the button marked **I want to be a Labs tester**. Now click the link marked **Start using iPlayer Labs features**, found where the sign-up button used to be.



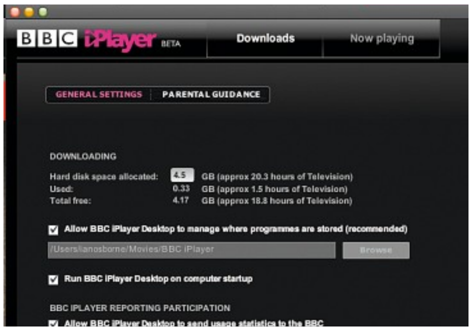
02 You're taken to the iPlayer website, where new options are available (though not immediately apparent). Choose a TV show to download. We're going for *The Secret Life of Elephants*, Episode One. Alongside the **Play High Quality** streaming option, there's a new button marked **Download to Computer**. Click on it. Note, not every programme is available for download at present.



03 Download the *BBC iPlayer Desktop*. System requirements are listed as 'Intel-based Macs', and there's only one download button. Click **Install BBC iPlayer Desktop** and follow the prompts (you need your administrator's password). If you don't have it already, Adobe *AIR* is installed, followed by the *BBC iPlayer Desktop* itself. By default it installs to your **Applications** folder, but you can change this.



04 The *iPlayer Desktop* will download and open, beginning to download the show you chose earlier. The application window shows which programme is being downloaded, its duration, a download bar with time remaining, the size of the downloading file and a collapsible information bar with a brief note about the show. You can also pause or cancel the download from here.



DOWNLOADING

Hard disk space allocated: 4.5 GB (approx 20.3 hours of Television)
Used: 0.33 GB (approx 1.5 hours of Television)
Total free: 4.17 GB (approx 18.8 hours of Television)

☑ Allow BBC iPlayer Desktop to manage where programmes are stored (recommended)

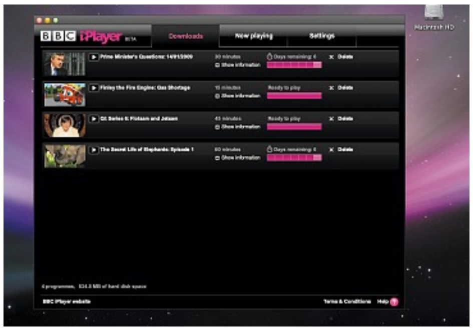
/Users/ianosborne/Movies/BBC iPlayer

☑ Run BBC iPlayer Desktop on computer startup

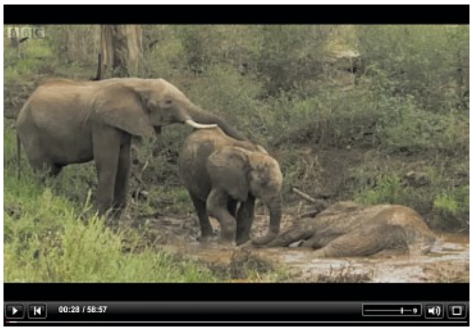
BBC IPLAYER REPORTING PARTICIPATION

☑ Allow BBC iPlayer Desktop to send usage statistics to the BBC

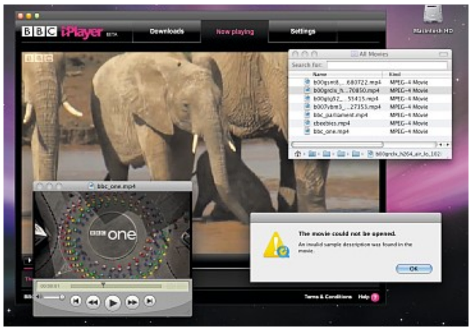
05 If you want to download and preserve more than one show at a time, note that the *BBC iPlayer Desktop* allocates no hard-drive space for *iPlayer* downloads. Click on the **Settings** tab. From here, you can set the HDD allocation, change the location where iPlayer downloads are stored (it's initially your **Movies** folder) and activate iPlayer's parental controls, should you so choose.



06 You can now quit *Safari*. Your downloaded programme (or programmes when you've downloaded a number of them) is listed under the **Downloads** tab. To play a show, click on the screenshot, icon or title, and you're taken to the **Now playing** tab, where you can watch it. Once you've started viewing a downloaded programme, you have seven days to finish it before it disappears.

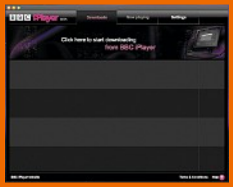


07 From the **Now playing** screen, you can watch the programme, pause, restart, control the volume, access specific sections of the show using the slider. You can also go full screen – the video quality isn't remarkable, but it's watchable. There's no Fast Forward or Rewind, but these might be added by when the app is out of beta.



08 The downloaded movies appear as self-contained files (in your **Movies** folder by default) in MPEG-4 format, but you can't open them in QuickTime Player by double-clicking. The clips that introduce the channel can be played, but if you click on the programme files, you get an error message. This is the BBC's DRM in effect. ●

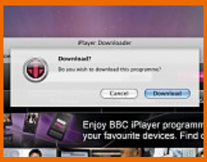
TOOL SCHOOL



If you've nothing in your Downloads tab, click on the empty programme list to open the iPlayer site. If you have programmes waiting to be watched, click on the iPlayer logo in the top-left corner.

EXPERT TIP

Get iPlayer Grabber and iPlayer Downloader from http://mac.softpedia.com, and download iPlayer programmes as DRM-free .mov files, which you can transfer to other players, burn and watch when you like.



Download?

Do you wish to download this programme?

Get more from the menu bar

Improve your overall Mac experience by giving your menu bar an overhaul with some extras

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- Some spare room in your menu bar
- 20 minutes of your time

You'll find all the applications you need on this month's disc

Over the past few years, displays have got larger and cheaper. Few people would consider buying a desktop monitor smaller than 20 inches, and even laptop screens have grown, with Apple's smallest (the MacBook) offering a resolution 1,280-pixels wide. This leads to space in the Mac OS X menu bar, which can be used by add-ons to improve your Mac experience.

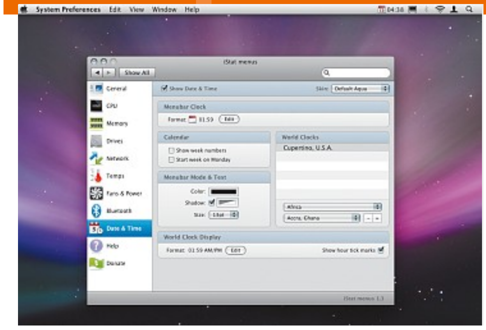
We've put together three tutorials that show how useful and diverse menu extras can be. And all the add-ons are freeware or donationware.

We begin by showing how to replace the Mac OS X clock with one that has a calendar and world clock (via *iStat menus*, **www.islayer.com/apps/istatmenus/**). Next, its GTD (Get Things Done) apps *Isolator* (**www.willmore.eu/software/isolator/**), *Anxiety* (**anxietyapp.com**) and *Jumpcut* (**jumpcut.sourceforge.net**), then onto two apps that improve *iTunes*, *iTunesMenu* (**www.mrgeckosmedia.com/applications**) and *I Love Stars* (**www.potionfactory.comblog/2008/12/24/i-love-stars-30**).

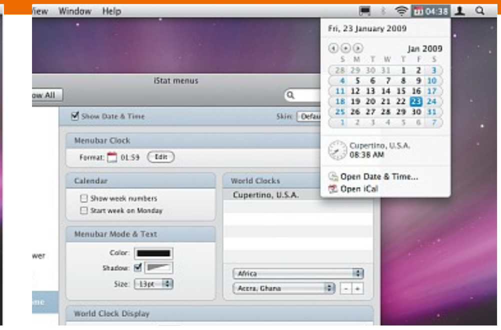
Craig Grannell

> "Few people would consider buying a monitor smaller than 20 inches, and laptop screens have grown"

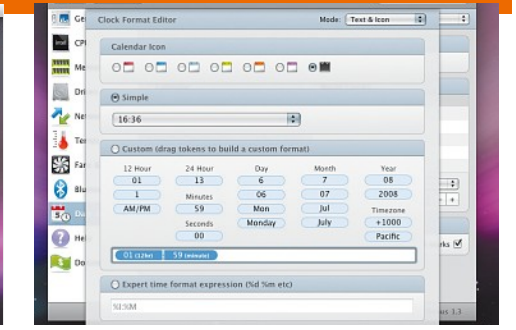
STEP BY STEP Get a better menu-bar clock and more with iStat menus


System Preferences
iStat menus
General
CPU
Memory
Drives
Network
Temps
Fans & Power
Bluetooth
Date & Time
Help
Donate
Show Date & Time
Menubar Clock
Calendar
World Clocks
Menubar Mode & Text
World Clock Display

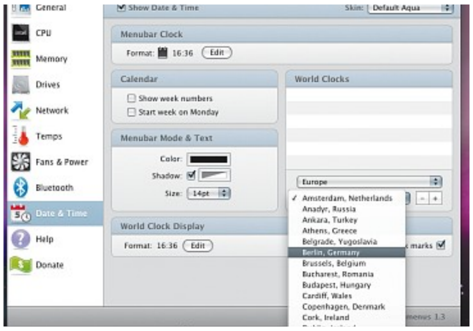
01 Mac OS X's menu-bar clock is limited, and better replaced by the **Date & Time** module from *iStat menus*. Remove the Mac OS X clock by ⌘-dragging it off the bar. Next, install *iStat menus*, open it in **System Preferences** and select **Date & Time** from the left-hand sidebar. Check **Show Date & Time** and a new menu-bar clock will appear.


Fri, 23 January 2009
Jan 2009
Cupertino, U.S.A.
08:38 AM
Open Date & Time...
Open iCal
iStat menus
Show Date & Time
Menubar Clock
Calendar
World Clocks
Menubar Mode & Text
World Clock Display

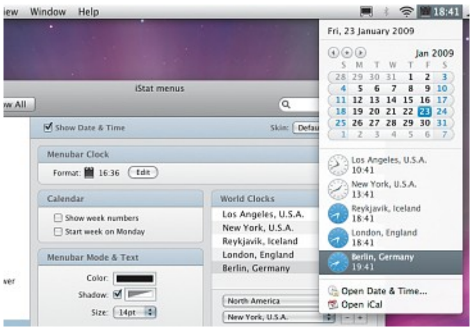
02 Reposition the new clock by ⌘-dragging it left or right – we've placed it next to the **Account** menu-extra. By default, *iStat menus* simultaneously displays the time and date, and it has other advantages over the default Mac clock: click *iStat menus* and its menu displays a calendar for the month, along with the time in Cupertino, USA.


Clock Format Editor
Calendar Icon
Simple
16:36
Custom (drag tokens to build a custom format)
Expert time format expression (%d %m etc)

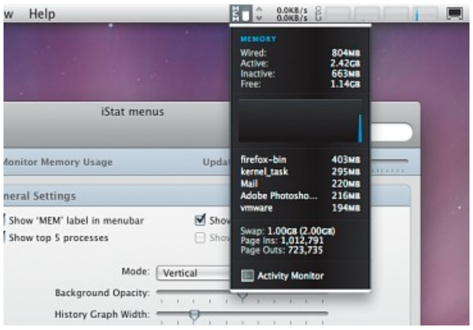
03 Start customising your clock by clicking **Edit** under **Menubar Clock**. Click the right-most icon under **Calendar** Icon and then check **Simple**. Select the second option from the menu (**16:36**) and then click **Save**. Under **Menubar Mode & Text**, change **Size** to **14pt** – you now have a 24-hour clock that fits in nicely with other menu-extras.


Menubar Clock
Format: 16:36 Edit
Calendar
World Clocks
Menubar Mode & Text
Size: 14pt
World Clock Display
Format: 16:36 Edit
Europe
Amsterdam, Netherlands
Berlin, Germany

04 Next, the world clock. Under **World Clock Display**, click **Edit**, choose **16:36** from **Simple**, and click **Save**. In the **World Clocks** menu, select **Cupertino** and click the - symbol (unless you always want to know the time at Apple HQ). Add a new world-clock entry by picking a country and city from the menus and clicking +.

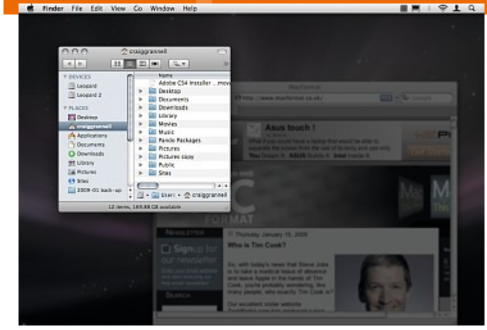

Fri, 23 January 2009
Los Angeles, U.S.A.
New York, U.S.A.
Reykjavik, Iceland
London, England
Berlin, Germany
Open Date & Time...
Open iCal

05 If you add multiple entries, they can be rearranged by dragging. Putting them in geographic order from west to east makes the world clock's display more logical, and said display is updated immediately when you click the clock in the menu bar. If it's not yet daylight in a location, this is denoted by a blue clockface.

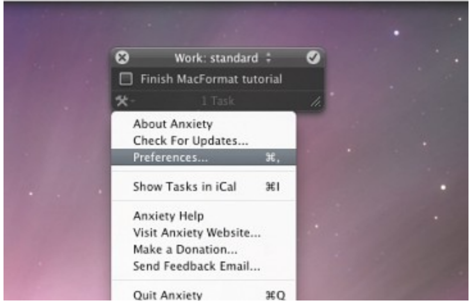

MEMORY
Wired:
Active:
Inactive:
Free:
iStat menus
Monitor Memory Usage
General Settings
Show 'MEM' label in menubar
Show top 5 processes
Activity Monitor

06 *iStat menus* have seven other optional menu-bar components, most of which are for monitoring. Of these, **CPU**, **Memory** and **Network** are particularly useful, showing basic usage in each case and displaying further information in their menus. Don't run too many live monitors, however, if you've a Mac that's short on resources.

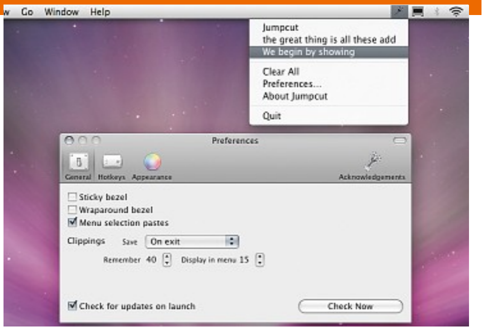
STEP BY STEP Get things done using menu-extras


Finder File Edit View Go Window Help

01 Install and run *Isolator*. It'll show in the menu bar as a square. Click it and the Desktop and all windows, except those of the frontmost app, will be dimmed (you can switch applications as normal). [Ctrl]-click *Isolator* to access its preferences, which enable you to define a toggling hot-key and the appearance of the shaded background.


Work: standard
Finish MacFormat tutorial
1 Task
About Anxiety
Check For Updates…
Preferences… ⌘,
Show Tasks in iCal ⌘I
Anxiety Help
Visit Anxiety Website…
Make a Donation…
Send Feedback Email…
Quit Anxiety ⌘Q

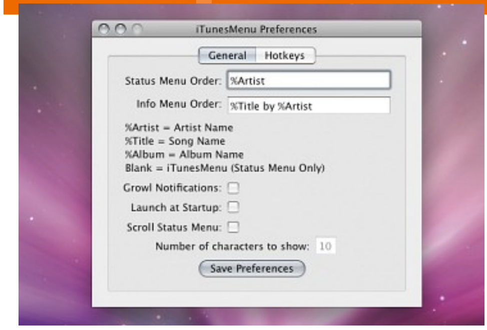
02 Next, install and run *Anxiety*. It shows as a tick, which, when clicked, toggles a small palette with synchronised *iCal* to-dos. Its **Appearance** preferences (accessed via the palette's bottom-left button) enable you to group tasks into one list. Add tasks via the palette's tick button (top-right), and click the checkbox when a task's complete.


Go Window Help
Jumpcut
the great thing is all these add
We begin by showing
Clear All
Preferences…
About Jumpcut
Quit
Preferences
General
Hotkeys
Appearance
Acknowledgements
Check Now

☐ Sticky bezel
☐ Wraparound bezel
☑ Menu selection pastes
Clippings Save On exit
Remember 40 Display in menu 15
☑ Check for updates on launch

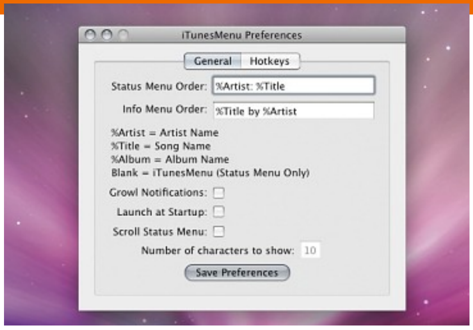
03 *Jumpcut* enables you to get around Mac OS X's single-clipboard limitation. When installed, it appears as scissors in the menu bar, and its menu displays the last 15 pieces of copied text. To paste an item into the current document, select it from the list. [Ctrl]-click *Jumpcut* to access its preferences and hot-key settings.

STEP BY STEP Improve your iTunes experience with iTunesMenu and I Love Stars


iTunesMenu Preferences
General
Hotkeys
Save Preferences

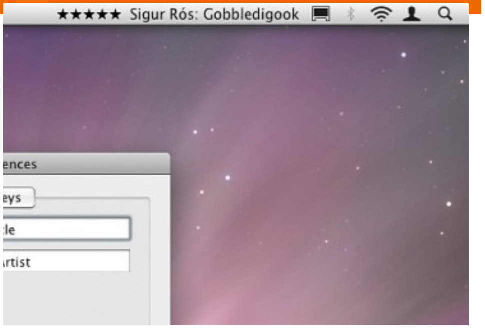
Status Menu Order: %Artist
Info Menu Order: %Title by %Artist
%Artist = Artist Name
%Title = Song Name
%Album = Album Name
Blank = iTunesMenu (Status Menu Only)
Growl Notifications: ☐
Launch at Startup: ☐
Scroll Status Menu: ☐
Number of characters to show: 10

01 Install and launch *iTunesMenu*. If *iTunes* is playing, the artist is displayed in the menu bar; if not, you'll see *iTunesMenu*. Click the relevant menu-bar text to access *iTunesMenu*'s options and select **Preferences**. In the **General** section, you can define what info is shown in the bar and drop-down menu by updating the two fields.

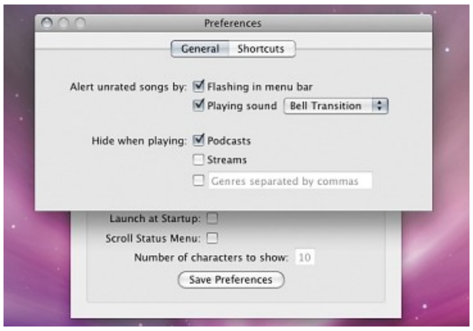

iTunesMenu Preferences
General
Hotkeys
Save Preferences

Status Menu Order: %Artist: %Title
Info Menu Order: %Title by %Artist
%Artist = Artist Name
%Title = Song Name
%Album = Album Name
Blank = iTunesMenu (Status Menu Only)
Growl Notifications: ☐
Launch at Startup: ☐
Scroll Status Menu: ☐
Number of characters to show: 10

02 In the **Status Menu Order** field, type ': %Title' after '%Artist', and click **Save Preferences**. The format Artist: Title (for example, R.E.M.: *Up*) will be displayed in the menu bar. *iTunesMenu* updates and resizes upon song changes in *iTunes*. However, you can restrict its width by checking **Scroll Status Menu** and defining a character count.

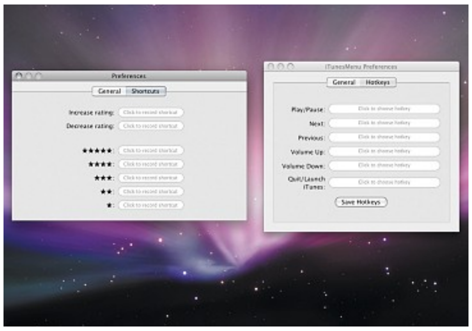

★★★★★ Sigur Rós: Gobbledigook

03 Install and launch *I Love Stars* and start playing a track in *iTunes*. The track's rating will spin into view in the menu bar. If the track is unrated, five dots will be shown. To change the rating, click on the relevant character in the menu bar (for example, the third one changes the rating to 3/5).


Preferences
General
Shortcuts
Save Preferences

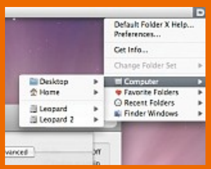
Alert unrated songs by: ☑ Flashing in menu bar
☑ Playing sound Bell Transition
Hide when playing: ☑ Podcasts
☐ Streams
☐ Genres separated by commas
Launch at Startup: ☐
Scroll Status Menu: ☐
Number of characters to show: 10

04 [Ctrl]-click *I Love Stars* to access its menu and select **Preferences**. In **General**, ensure **Flashing in menu bar** and **Playing sound** are checked and choose a noise. *I Love Stars* will now alert you when an unrated track is playing. Via **Hide when playing**, you can hide *I Love Stars* when podcasts, streams or specific genres are played.


Preferences
General
Shortcuts
Increase rating:
Decrease rating:
★★★★★:
★★★★:
★★★:
★★:
★:
iTunesMenu Preferences
General
Hotkeys
Play/Pause:
Next:
Previous:
Volume Up:
Volume Down:
Quit/Launch iTunes:
Save Hotkeys

05 Click **Shortcuts**. Click on each of the boxes and define a system-wide shortcut that you'd like to use for keyboard-based rating assignment, avoiding clashes with common Mac shortcuts (⌥+⇧+[Ctrl]+ a numeral is good). To unlock the 'Hotkeys' section, donate to *iTunesMenu* – it's useful if your keyboard lacks media buttons. ●

EXPERT TIP


Default Folder X Help…
Preferences…
Get Info…
Change Folder Set
Desktop
Home
Leopard
Leopard 2
Computer
Favorite Folders
Recent Folders
Finder Windows

If you run *Default Folder X* (www.stclairsoft.com/DefaultFolderX/), check At the right side of the menu bar under Menus in Settings to navigate folders/volumes via the menu bar.

EXPERT TIP

Are you fed up with your Mac's screen dimming when you're reading or watching videos? Install *Caffeine* (www.lightheadsw.com/caffeine/), and indulge in single-click toggling of said feature.

Simplify your Desktop

Get your Mac OS X Desktop tidy… and keep it that way

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- *Desktopple* (requires Mac OS X 10.4)
- *DeskCover* (requires Mac OS X 10.5)
- Some icons strewn about your Desktop

Mac FORMAT On the disc

Desktopple and *DeskCover* are on the disc this month.

On a good day, the average desktop (as in a real one made of wood) of a busy person looks rather dishevelled and there's rarely enough time to make everything spick and span. Sadly, despite it being simple to keep the Mac OS X equivalent in check, too often our Mac's Desktop ends up as a dumping ground for apps, folders, URL clippings, and various random text documents and screengrabs. If you're in the same position, this tutorial has some quickfire tips to help you clean up your act.

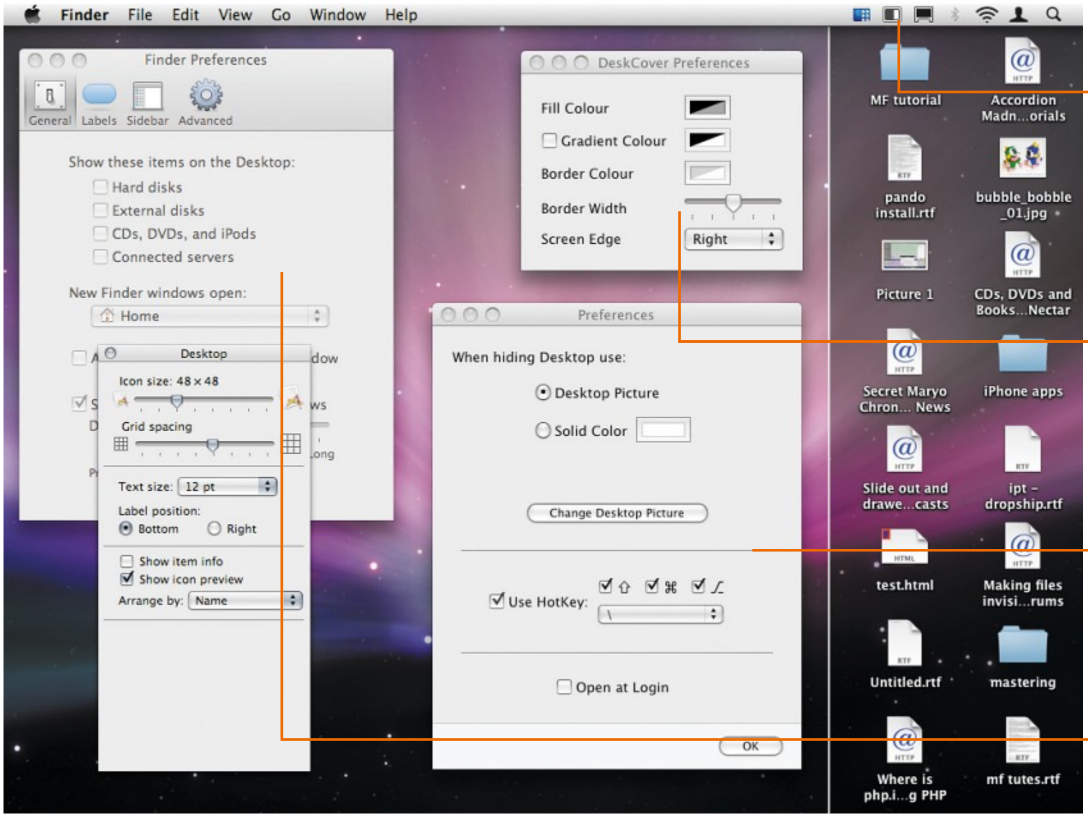
There are various reasons why it's good to tidy your Desktop. Aside from there being some evidence that an abundance of Desktop files can impact on system performance, keeping things organised means you can find items more quickly. Spotlight helps locate a file, but that's not much help in an **Open** or **Save** dialog. By filing things sensibly, you always know where to look.

The Desktop is a handy 'holding pen' for ongoing projects, and so keeping it entirely clean is unrealistic. But, if you can file away something sitting on your Desktop, do so.

In this tutorial we explore your Desktop options, helped by donationware. These draw attention to files via a dynamic background (using *DeskCover*, **danicsoft.com/projects/deskcover/**) and enable you to hide clutter when it starts getting too much (using *Desktopple*, **foggynoggin.com/desktopple/basic**).

Craig Grannell

TOP FEATURES | A quick look at just a few Desktop tidying options


Finder File Edit View Go Window Help
Finder Preferences
General
Labels
Sidebar
Advanced
Desktop
DeskCover Preferences
Preferences
MF tutorial
Accordion Madn...orials
pando install.rtf
bubble_bobble _01.jpg
Picture 1
CDs, DVDs and Books...Nectar
Secret Maryo Chron... News
iPhone apps
Slide out and drawe...casts
ipt – dropship.rtf
test.html
Making files invisi...rums
Untitled.rtf
mastering
Where is php.i...g PHP
mf tutes.rtf

Show these items on the Desktop:
☐ Hard disks
☐ External disks
☐ CDs, DVDs, and iPods
☐ Connected servers

New Finder windows open: Home

Icon size: 48 × 48
Grid spacing
Text size: 12 pt
Label position: ● Bottom ○ Right
☐ Show item info
☑ Show icon preview
Arrange by: Name

Fill Colour
☐ Gradient Colour
Border Colour
Border Width
Screen Edge: Right

When hiding Desktop use:
● Desktop Picture
○ Solid Colour
Change Desktop Picture
☑ Use HotKey: ☑ ⇧ ☑ ⌘ ☑ ⌥ \
☐ Open at Login
OK

Easy access

Desktopple and *DeskCover* are both accessible from your menu bar making it a cinch to use, leaving you with no excuses not to tidy!

Highlight icons

DeskCover will highlight the icons on your Desktop, making them easy to spot, which will make you assess which ones really need to be there.

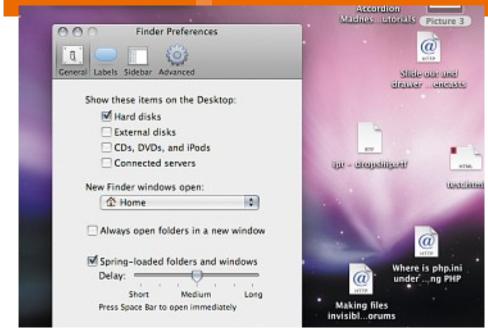
Visibility shortcut

The *Desktopple* application provides a keyboard shortcut for toggling Desktop item visibility, enabling you to see what's what in a second.

Tidy with Finder

Finder's Preferences and View options enable you to arrange Desktop files into a state that's more manageable for you to work with.

STEP BY STEP Use Finder's built-in options to tidy your Desktop

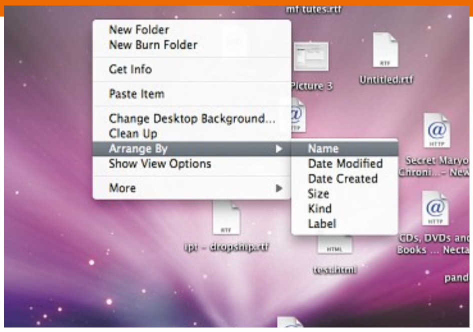

Finder Preferences
General Labels Sidebar Advanced
Accordion Madnes...utorials
Picture 3
Slide-out and drawer...encasts
ipt – dropshipp.rtf
testit.html
Where is php.ini under ...ng PHP
Making files invisibl...orums

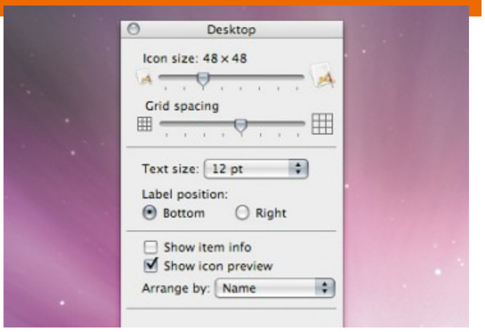
Show these items on the Desktop:
☑ Hard disks
☐ External disks
☐ CDs, DVDs, and iPods
☐ Connected servers

New Finder windows open: Home

☐ Always open folders in a new window

☑ Spring-loaded folders and windows
Delay: Short Medium Long
Press Space Bar to open immediately


New Folder
New Burn Folder
Get Info
Paste Item
Change Desktop Background...
Clean Up
Arrange By
Show View Options
More
Name
Date Modified
Date Created
Size
Kind
Label
Picture 3
Untitled.rtf
Secret Maryo Chroni... – News
CDs, DVDs and Books ... Necta
ipt – dropshipp.rtf
testit.html



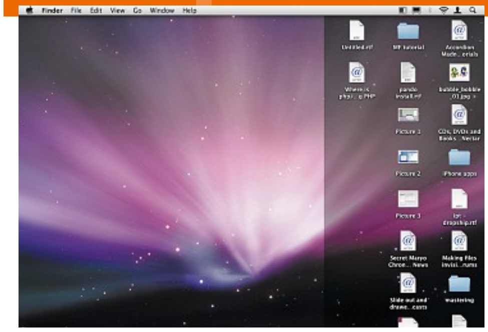
Icon size: 48 x 48
Grid spacing
Text size: 12 pt
Label position: ● Bottom ○ Right
☐ Show item info
☑ Show icon preview
Arrange by: Name

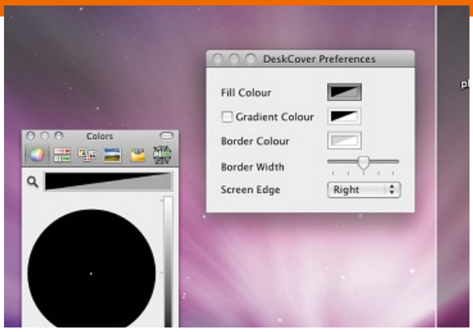
01 Focus *Finder* by clicking on it in the Dock and go to Finder > Preferences to open its preferences. Right away you can start removing Desktop clutter. Turn off things like hard disks and CDs by unchecking the relevant checkboxes – volumes are generally better accessed from a *Finder* window sidebar anyway.

02 Close *Finder*'s preferences window and [Ctrl]-click (or right-click) on the Desktop to access *Finder*'s contextual menu. The penultimate menu group is centred around Desktop-oriented commands. Select Arrange By > Name and your Desktop items will snap to the right of your Desktop in alphabetical order, making them easier to find.

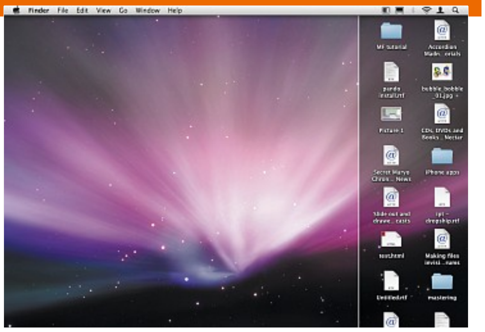
03 Select **View Options** from the contextual menu (or go to View > Show View Options in *Finder*) to open the options window. Here, you can further refine how icons on your Desktop appear. Tightening the grid spacing slightly and dropping the icon size can make things tidier, but don't make the icons too small. ●

STEP BY STEP Use DeskCover to highlight Desktop icons


Finder File Edit View Go Window Help


DeskCover Preferences
Colors

Fill Colour
☐ Gradient Colour
Border Colour
Border Width
Screen Edge: Right

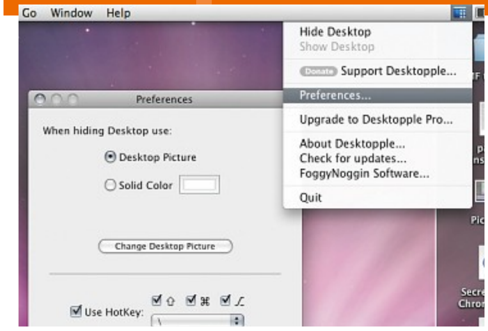

Finder File Edit View Go Window Help

01 Even with your icons tidied, they might not stand out against your Desktop background. Donationware application *DeskCover* can help. Install *DeskCover* from your disc and launch it. When it first runs, a shaded area will appear behind your Desktop icons, making them easier to see against whatever Desktop background you have.

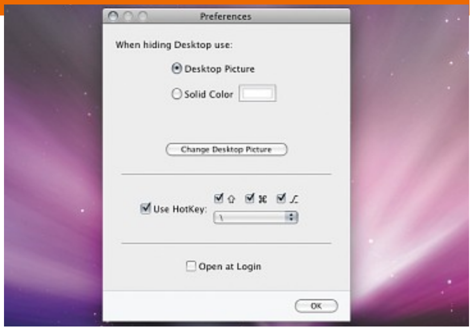
02 *DeskCover* is accessible from the menu bar. Click its icon and select **Preferences** from the menu. In the *DeskCover* **Preferences** window, move the **Border Width** slider to add a border to the shaded area's edge. You can change the colours of the fill and border by clicking the wells and selecting a colour from the **Colors** window.

03 One of the most useful aspects of *DeskCover* is that it automatically updates itself. In the grab, two redundant files on the Desktop were sent to the trash. Within a second or two, *DeskCover* updated the shaded area, so it only highlighted the icons currently showing – not the maximum number that were once visible. ●

STEP BY STEP Use Desktopple to hide icons


Go Window Help
Hide Desktop
Show Desktop
Donate Support Desktopple...
Preferences...
Upgrade to Desktopple Pro...
About Desktopple...
Check for updates...
FoggyNoggin Software...
Quit
Preferences
Change Desktop Picture

When hiding Desktop use:
● Desktop Picture
○ Solid Color
☑ Use HotKey: ☑ ⇧ ☑ ⌘ ☑ ⌥


Preferences
Change Desktop Picture
OK

When hiding Desktop use:
● Desktop Picture
○ Solid Color
☑ Use HotKey: ☑ ⇧ ☑ ⌘ ☑ ⌥
☐ Open at Login

01 Install *Desktopple* from your disc and launch it. Like *DeskCover*, it appears in the menu bar – select **Preferences** from its menu. When the **Preferences** window appears, ensure **Desktop Picture** is selected and check **Use HotKey**. Using the other checkboxes and the menu, define a shortcut for toggling *Desktopple* and then click **OK**.

02 While *Desktopple* is running, use your shortcut to toggle the visibility of Desktop icons. (Technically, *Desktopple* places a window mirroring your Desktop image over the icons, and so may need to restart if you switch resolutions.) This is cheating rather than tidying, but great for when you don't want to be distracted. ●

EXPERT TIP

Accounts
Login Items

If you find yourself regularly using the two donationware applications from this tutorial, remember to add them to your Login Items in the Accounts pane in *System Preferences*.

EXPERT TIP

If you want to take Desktop tidying further, but require more automation, investigate *Hazel* (www.noodlesoft.com/hazel.php). This shareware application files away Desktop clutter according to user-defined rules.

Store files on your iPhone

Now you can store and view files on the iPhone or iPod touch with Air Sharing. We explain how…

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- A Mac with OS X Tiger or Leopard, and a WiFi network connecting them
- An iPhone/iPod touch with iPhone 2.0
- *Air Sharing* (£2.99 from the App Store)

The iPhone and iPod touch are wonderfully versatile, yet lack one simple feature that is available in even the cheapest iPod models. All iPhones and iPods store music, video and photos, but most iPod models also have a **disk mode** option that enables you to use the iPod like a USB hard disk. Just click on the iPod's name in your **iTunes Source** panel and you'll see an option marked **Enable Disk Use**. When you turn this option on, an icon representing your iPod appears on the Mac Desktop and you can copy files onto the iPod's hard disk just as you would with any other type of hard disk (as long as the iPod isn't already full with music and other files).

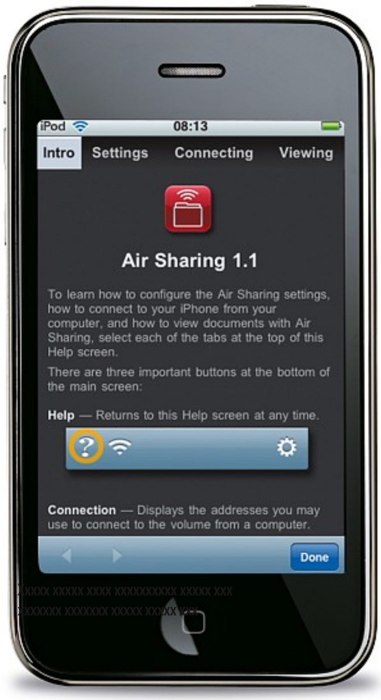
This means that the iPod can be used to store any type of computer file at all, from *Word* to *Pages*. You can then use the iPod to transfer your files to other computers, or just use it as a back-up to keep a copy of your important files.

Unfortunately, the iPhone and iPod touch don't work in **disk mode**. However, there's a program called *Air Sharing* that allows you store files on the internal hard disk of the iPhone or iPod touch.

Air Sharing only costs £2.99 from the iTunes App Store, and it does a lot more than just turning your iPhone or iPod touch into a USB hard disk. For starters, it does away with the USB connection altogether, and allows you to copy files onto the iPhone or iPod touch using a WiFi network connection. *Air Sharing* uses a technology called WebDAV (web-based distributed authoring and versioning), which is the same technology that Apple uses with its *iDisk* online storage system. Once you've turned on the WiFi networking on your iPhone or iPod touch, it will appear in the sidebar of any window on the Mac Desktop just like any other computer connected to the network. You can then copy onto the iPhone or iPod touch by drag or drop.

Air Sharing doesn't stop there, though. It also allows you to view many different types of files on the screen of the iPhone or iPod touch, so that you can quickly check files or look up info stored on PDF files or other documents. The program reads all the main Microsoft *Office* formats, including *Word*, *Excel* and *PowerPoint* files, as well as PDF files, archived web pages, and documents created in Apple's own *Pages*, *Numbers* or *Keynote* programs. This makes it a great option for storing and viewing information on your iPhone or iPod touch as you can carry your files and view them whenever you want, without having to carry a full-sized MacBook with you. There are also some useful security features built in. *Air Sharing* is one of the most useful iPhone/iPod touch programs we've seen, so here's a quick introduction to *Air Sharing* your files.

Cliff Joseph


iPod
08:13
Intro
Settings
Connecting
Viewing
Done
Xxxxx xxxxx xxxx xxxxxxxxxx xxxxx xxx
Xxxxxxx xxxxxxx xxxxx xxxxx xxx

Air Sharing 1.1

To learn how to configure the Air Sharing settings, how to connect to your iPhone from your computer, and how to view documents with Air Sharing, select each of the tabs at the top of this Help screen.

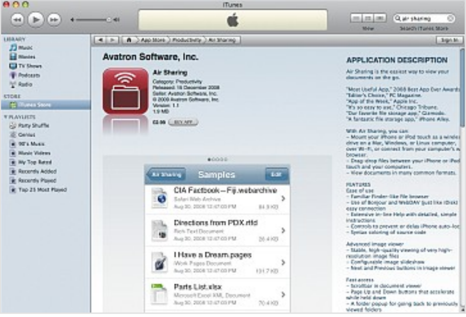
There are three important buttons at the bottom of the main screen:

Help — Returns to this Help screen at any time.

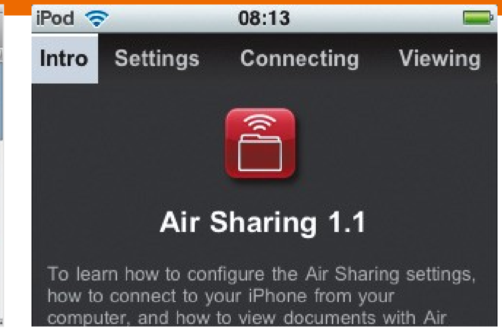
Connection — Displays the addresses you may use to connect to the volume from a computer.

> "Air Sharing does away with the USB connection altogether and uses a WiFi network connection"

STEP BY STEP Get started with Air Sharing on your iPhone or iPod touch



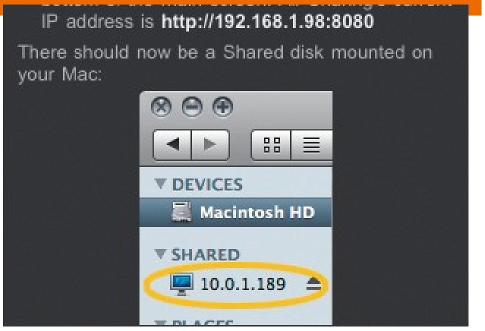
01 You can find *Air Sharing* on the iTunes App Store, where it's on sale for £2.99. It's well worth the price, as it adds some useful file sharing and viewing features to your iPhone or iPod touch. Take a look at the developer's site (**www.avatron.com**), as this includes detailed information and technical support forums.



Air Sharing 1.1

To learn how to configure the Air Sharing settings, how to connect to your iPhone from your computer, and how to view documents with Air

02 Make sure you've turned on your iPhone/iPod's WiFi networking option. When you open *Air Sharing* for the first time you'll get an intro screen, which provides an outline of how the program works. The tabs at the top for **Settings**, **Connecting** and **Viewing** provide access to the program's features. Start by clicking on **Connecting**.

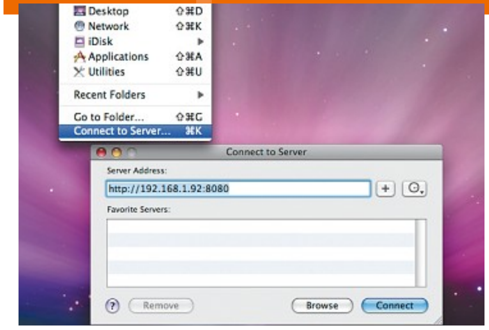


IP address is **http://192.168.1.98:8080**

There should now be a Shared disk mounted on your Mac:

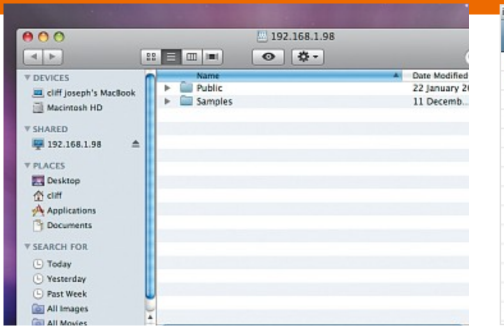
03 The **Connecting** screen provides a guide explaining how to connect your iPhone or iPod touch to your Mac. If you've turned on the WiFi connection this screen displays the network address for your devices, which you'll need to set up the connection. There are also details for using *Air Sharing* with Windows PCs and Linux machines.

STEP BY STEP Get started with Air Sharing on your iPhone or iPod touch… continued


Desktop ⇧⌘D
Network ⇧⌘K
iDisk
Applications ⇧⌘A
Utilities ⇧⌘U
Recent Folders
Go to Folder… ⇧⌘G
Connect to Server… ⌘K
Connect to Server
Favorite Servers:
Remove
Browse
Connect

Server Address: http://192.168.1.92:8080

04 Make sure you're on the Mac's main Desktop, with the **Finder** menu showing at the top. Click on the **Go** menu, then select the **Connect To Server** command (or just tap ⌘+[K]). When the **Connect To Server** window opens, enter the network address that *Air Sharing* gave us in the last screen. Then press the **Connect** button.


192.168.1.98
DEVICES
cliff Joseph's MacBook
Macintosh HD
SHARED
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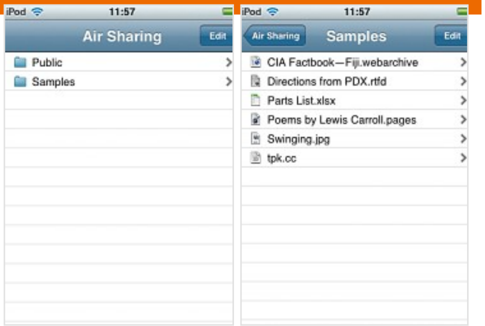
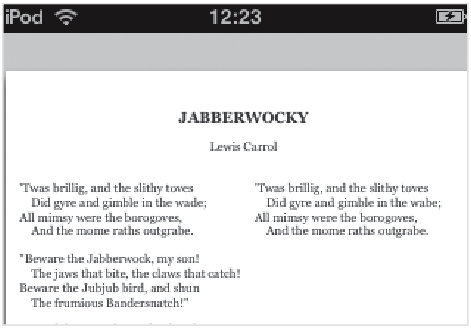
PLACES
Desktop
cliff
Applications
Documents
SEARCH FOR
Today
Yesterday
Past Week
All Images
All Movies
Name
Date Modified
Public
22 January 2…
Samples
11 Decemb…

05 You can now see the contents of your iPhone/iPod displayed on your Mac Desktop. If you've set your *Finder* preferences to **Display Connected Servers** then the iPhone/iPod will show up as a hard disk. There are two folders set up – **Public** that can be shared by all on your wireless network, and **Samples** containing demo files.


iPod
11:57
Air Sharing
Edit
Public
Samples
iPod
11:57
Air Sharing
Samples
Edit
CIA Factbook—Fiji.webarchive
Directions from PDX.rtfd
Parts List.xlsx
Poems by Lewis Carroll.pages
Swinging.jpg
tpk.cc

06 Switching back to the iPhone/iPod, click the **Done** button in the bottom-right corner of the previous screen and you will be taken into the main *Air Sharing* window, which shows the files and folders stored on your iPhone/iPod. Click on any folder to see the contents of that folder. Let's take a quick look at the files in the **Samples** folder.



JABBERWOCKY

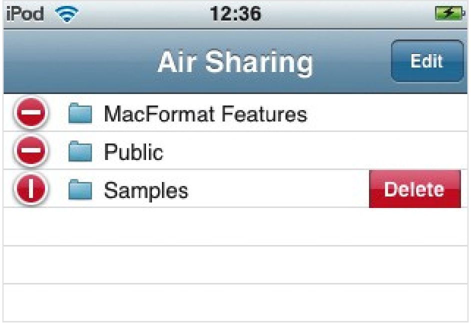
Lewis Carrol

'Twas brillig, and the slithy toves
Did gyre and gimble in the wade;
All mimsy were the borogoves,
And the mome raths outgrabe.

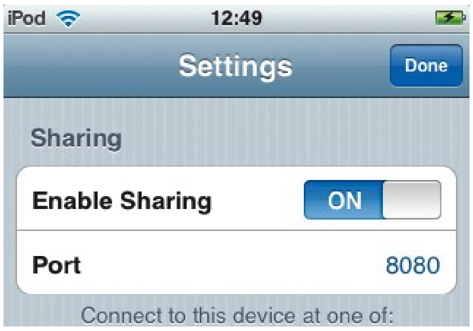
"Beware the Jabberwock, my son!
The jaws that bite, the claws that catch!
Beware the Jubjub bird, and shun
The frumious Bandersnatch!"

'Twas brillig, and the slithy toves
Did gyre and gimble in the wabe;
All mimsy were the borogoves,
And the mome raths outgrabe.

07 The **Samples** folder contains different types of files. As well as some JPEG photos, an *Excel* spreadsheet, a *Pages* document, and a stored web page. This is *Air Sharing*'s best feature – it enables you to view lots of types of documents that the iPhone/iPod wouldn't normally be able to display. Click on a sample file to see it work.


iPod
12:36
Air Sharing
Edit
MacFormat Features
Public
Samples
Delete

08 Now that we've set up the wireless connection, we can treat the iPhone/iPod just like an ordinary hard disk, and copy files and folders onto it by dragging and dropping them. Here you can see that we've copied a new folder called **MacFormat Features**. We can delete files or folders by clicking the **Edit** button.

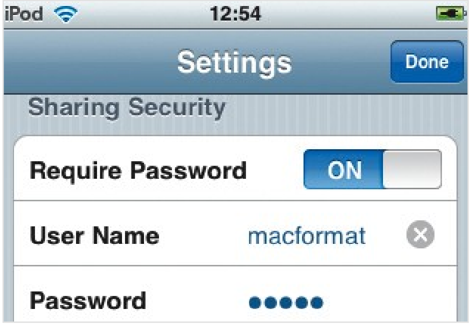

iPod
12:49
Settings
Done
Sharing

Enable Sharing ON

Port 8080

Connect to this device at one of:

09 There's always a security risk when you connect to a wireless network, but *Air Sharing* has options to protect your files. Click on the **Settings** icon – the cog in the lower-right corner of the main screen – and you'll see three options. The **Enable Sharing** option turns *Air Sharing* on or off, so you can disable it if you want to.

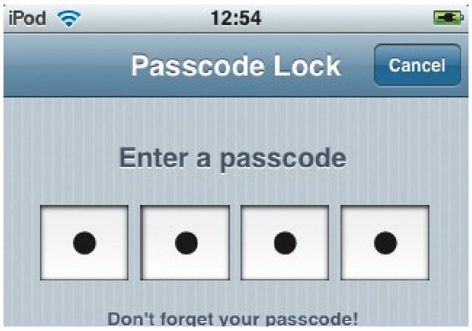

iPod
12:54
Settings
Done
Sharing Security

Require Password ON

User Name macformat

Password ●●●●●

10 You can turn on password protection so that any one who uses a Mac to connect to your iPhone/iPod over a wireless network has to enter the correct user name and password to gain access to files or folders. However, you can leave the **Public** folder unprotected if you want, so that others have access to the files that you put there.


iPod
12:54
Passcode Lock
Cancel

Enter a passcode

● ● ● ●

Don't forget your passcode!

11 You can also use the **Passcode** option to apply a separate security code to *Air Sharing* itself. Anyone who uses your iPhone/iPod will need to enter this code before they can see the files. This gives you an extra level of security in case your iPhone/iPod is stolen, or if you just have it lying around leaving others to look at your files. ●

TOOL SCHOOL

Air Sharing
MacFormat Features
Public
Samples
UserGuide.pdf

If you need to double-check the network address of your iPhone/iPod, just open the main *Air Sharing* window and you'll see the address displayed right at the bottom of the screen.

EXPERT TIP

If you copy lots of folders onto your iPhone/iPod you can check the location of any file or folder by clicking on the words Air Sharing in the title bar at the top of the screen.

Notes
Notes
MobileMe MF
MacFormat Features
Air Sharing

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This issue Luis tackles WiFi connections, Mac programming and helps readers with their groceries

QUICK TIP

Safari security alert

Safari has a security hole that can be used to access your personal details in emails or web pages. Until Apple releases a fix for this, make sure that *Safari* is not set as the default RSS reader in Safari > Preferences.

BROKEN WIFI ON iPHONE 3G

Q **After activating my newly-purchased iPhone 3G, I downloaded the 2.2 firmware patch. Everything went well for a week but then the iPhone lost connection with my home WiFi network. From then on it has been unable to recognise any WiFi hotspots. My iMac has no bother recognising and connecting to my home network.**

To double-check if my iPhone was able to pick up any WiFi, I downloaded *WiFiFoFum*. It was unable to find any hotspots. It has managed to recognise and connect to my network for about five minutes, but never again since. I have rebooted the phone, went into the settings and turned AirPort mode off and on again, turned WiFi off and on again.

Steven Howie

A It has been confirmed by independent sources that version 2.2 of the firmware does break the WiFi connectivity for some iPhones. It is unclear why, but there appear to be solutions.

1. Reset your network settings. Remove spaces from your WPA passphrase or turn off security on your router. This will leave you open to other people connecting to your router and stealing your bandwidth, but this isn't all that big a security threat really. It doesn't allow people to hack your Mac or anything. As a temporary measure, while you wait for Apple to fix the problem, this is a good option.

2. Roll back to 2.1. There are simple instructions for doing this at **www.iphonedownloadblog.com.** However, do bear in mind though that there were people who wanted to downgrade *from* 2.1 because they also had broken WiFi connectivity on their machines.

3. Wait for 2.3. This is currently slated for April. This boasts lots of bug fixes but I can't find anyone to officially confirm whether the WiFi bug is one of them.

IMPROVING MY LAN SECURITY

Q **In order to give my iMac G4 another lease of life, I have just purchased an Edimax EW-7711UAn Wireless USB Adapter from Amazon (£17.61). I wanted to connect to my WPA2 protected wireless network because the internal AirPort does not handle encryption above WEP, which I do not consider adequate. Whilst my G4 is not essential it would be nice to still use it to surf the**

AT&T 3G
9:42 AM
SMS
Text
Tuesday
9
Calendar
Photos
Camera
YouTube
Stocks
280
Maps
73°
Weather
Clock
Calculator
Notes
Settings
iTunes
App Store
Phone
Mail
Safari
iPod

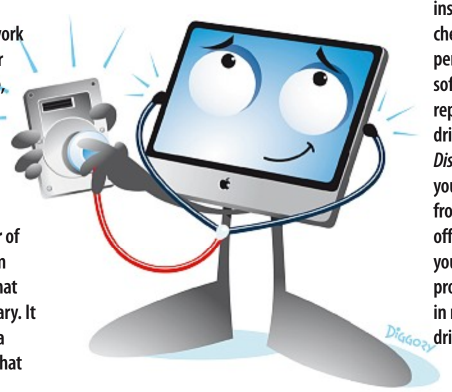
The 2.2 firmware patch has a tendency to lose the WiFi connection of some iPhones.

Q&A EXTRA | Essential Mac advice from MacWarehouse

DISK UTILITY

Buried within the **Utilities** folder on your Mac's hard drive is *Disk Utility*. *Disk Utility* is the successor to a very long line of Apple utilities that include *Disk First Aid, Apple HD SC Setup, Internal HD Format, Drive Setup, Disk Copy, DART, Disk Burner* and an earlier utility also called *Disk Utility*.

Whilst many users may have had no reason to open *Disk Utility* at all, those that have will probably have only touched the surface of its features, just by using it for checking permissions or verifying a disk that was causing them problems (and only then when a Mac sage of some description suggested that they do so). These are the two most basic reasons for *Disk Utility* to exist. As Mac OS X is a UNIX 03 operating system much of what makes it work depends on the permissions that are set for various files on the hard drive. For example, if the core of a program does not have it's "execute" bit set, then the program simply will not launch. The Mac OS keeps a record of how the permissions of a number of files and folders should be set and when you run either a **Verify** or **Repair** of **Permissions** within *Disk Utility* the program compares the permissions of the files to what they ought to be and resets them if necessary. It is important to note that you can only run a permissions verify or repair on a partition that has Mac OS X installed and that only files installed by Apple-originated installers are checked. Since the database of correct permissions may get updated when you install software updates you will get best results by repairing permissions whilst booting from the drive you want to repair. The opposite is true of *Disk Utility*'s **Repair Disk** feature, in most cases you can only repair a drive if you have booted from a different volum. And even if *Disk Utility* offers you the ability to verify the volume that you have booted from, there can be a number of problems experienced in actually doing this, so, in reality, you really should boot from another drive that is running the same, or a higher, version of Mac OS X than the drive that you are trying to repair. It's always a good idea



internet without compromising my other computer's wireless security.

Although the G4 only has USB 1.0 interface, I have used it in conjunction with a USB 3G modem in the past, which I use on my MacBook and although the performance is less via USB1.0 it does work for browsing (if a little slow for downloads).

The spec says that the EW-7711UAn is compatible with Mac OS X 10.4 (and comes with drivers for 10.3 to 10.5) and also USB 1.0/2.0. There is no Mac installation guide with the device, nothing that I can see in the manufacturer's website FAQ or manuals? How do I configure it to work?

John Minard

Security for the G4's wireless network can be easily sorted.

A First of all, I would dispute the allegation that WEP is inadequate for your home router. It is perfectly true that there are plenty of free packet-sniffing applications that can crack WEP passwords. But doing this requires patience and determination. Much as we might flatter ourselves, there aren't any blacked-out transit vans outside, full of shadowy agents drinking coffee and listening to your phone conversations through headphones. The question then becomes "Who are my immediate neighbours?" If the dodgy-looking bloke two doors down arouses your suspicion then additional security precautions might be warranted. But the retired couple, or the family with three young kids? They probably aren't spending their evenings stealing your broadband connection. Provided you have WEP enabled so that they can't connect *with a single mouse click*, you'll be fine.

But let's suppose you do live next door to a bored teenager or a suspicious-looking man, the easiest way to integrate an older Mac with a wireless network running WPA or WPA2 is with a wireless bridge. This plugs into the Ethernet port on your Mac and, as far as the G4 is concerned, it is just connected to a wired network. The bridge will relay all the traffic from the G4 to the router without the Mac ever being any the wiser. Belkin and Linksys have bridges in the £25-35 range.

Regarding your Edimax adaptor, I assume you've tried just plugging it in? If the driver doesn't have its own installer and OS X isn't autodetecting it, there isn't much point in rolling up your sleeves and busting open *Terminal*. Go back to Edimax and start looking for updated drivers. Unfortunately, I *have* done this and I also tried RaLink (who make the chipset) with no luck. Try plugging the adaptor in your newer Macs. If it works, it may be an incompatibility with PPC Macs.

CORRUPTED LEOPARD OS UPDATE

Q **Recently I've bought a new MacBook Pro and as soon as I connected it to internet many upgrades were ready to be installed. With software updates I managed to install almost all of them. The one giving me problems is *Keynote* update. The first time the system asked to restart in order to install the update but it never finished doing it. I had to shut down the Mac, in the end. After that, the latest checking of updates is giving me the option to install Mac OS X 10.5.6 alone, but when I click Install, the only option is Restart (choosing Not Now close *Software Update*) and as I've said before, the process never finalises.**

How can I remove the *Keynote* update? I know that it's better to download the update file to avoid problems, but at this point I need to resolve the problem.

José Miguel Reyes Rabell

A Ah, but this isn't *Keynote*'s fault, it's the 10.5.6 update. Yes, the *infamous* 10.5.6 update. Apple dropped the ball and accidentally seeded a *Software Update* with an incomplete patch file for 10.5.6, which would unfortunately mash your Mac into a blind panic. They've fixed it now, of course, but if you were unlucky enough to try and download it during this period, then you'd be stuck with an annoying update process that never actually completes. As you've discovered. To fix it, quit *Software Update* (by force, if necessary) then delete everything in **Library Updates**. Now go back to *Software Update* again and you can pick up where you left off.

▶

QUICK TIP

Hear your mail

Mail does not always play the audio alert when a new message arrives. This is because audio alerts aren't issued when the IMAP IDLE command finds a new message on the server. Fix it by turning off the IDLE command in Mail > Preferences > Accounts > Advanced and then in Mail > Preferences > General, set **Check** for new Mail: to whatever interval you want. POP mailboxes aren't affected by this.

QUICK TIP

Keep your files in order

If you arrange files by **Name** or **Size** or **Date Created**, OS X will only sort existing files; new ones in that folder get added to the end. But if you hold ⌥ down when the right-click menu is displayed, the **Arrange By** option changes to **Keep Arranged By** and the sort order will be maintained for all new files until you say otherwise.

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to run both permissions and disk repair before and after installing any software as if your permissions are messed up the installation may not go to plan and some installers have been known to leave permissions in a mess when they have finished.

As I've already said, repairing permissions and disks just scratches the surface of what *Disk Utility* can do. Amongst the other things that you can do with it are: creating and restoring hard-drive images, securely erasing either an entire disk or just unused space, formatting a hard drive for use on either Mac OS or Windows using a number of different volume formats, partitioning a drive into several different volumes (if you are running Mac OS X Leopard you can repartition the drive that you have booted from although there are some caveats), create and manage RAID sets, get reports on the condition of the hardware for internal drives and burning CD or DVD images to disk. I'll look at some of those features in more depth in future issues.

One thing that is missing from *Disk Utility* is the ability to optimise or defragment a drive. This is something that is left to third-party utilities because, as Apple put it in Knowledge Base article HT1375, "Another option is back up your important files, erase the hard disk, then reinstall Mac OS X and your backed up files." Hmmm… that helps!

In order to fill this gap in your toolbox have a look at the following tools: *Drive Genius 2* from Prosoft (**www.prosofteng.com**), *TechTool Pro* from Micromat (**www.micromat.com**) or *iDefrag* from Coriolis (**www.coriolis-systems.com**).

Bill Gallop is Technical Manager of MacWarehouse

www.macwarehouse.co.uk

QUICK TIP

Stop Safari skips

If you are in the habit of tabbing through fields on web forms, you may find it annoying that *Safari* will skip over checkboxes and radio buttons. This isn't a *Safari* preference, it is in System Preferences > Keyboard & Mouse > Keyboard Shortcuts. The shortcut to change this setting is [Ctrl]+[Fn]+[F7].

When exporting from *iMovie* choose **Expert Settings** for a top-notch result.

MAC PROGRAMMING FOR BEGINNERS?

Q I've just been reading the latest issue of *MacFormat* (I love the magazine!), and I saw you were giving someone some advice on programming regarding BASIC.

I'd also really like to start programming (not as a course but just as a little project to do for myself), but I really haven't a clue where to begin. I read somewhere that C was a good language to start with, but you mention Pascal in the article, but then related it back to BASIC, so I'm not sure what to do now – can you give me any advice? I don't know if it'll make any difference, but I've done a bit of web development. Also, can you recommend any books that would be good as a textbook to help me?

Chris Rooke

A I'm not a fan of C as a first language. It was a language developed when writing compact source code was considered clever. It teaches lots of bad habits, like assigning a value to a variable at the same time as testing that variable for a condition and having loops with multiple exit points. There are lots of other dirty tricks in the C repertoire that I could mention but they wouldn't really make any sense until you have already learned some of the programming fundamentals. The gist of it is that C encourages dense, opaque, complex code that is difficult to read, difficult to debug and where bugs tend to crash your application with catastrophic results.

Many of the shortfalls of C have been addressed in subsequent iterations, such as C++ and through the use of good function libraries but these are not where you need to start. BASIC is better as a first language, principally because it is very easy but in the end it teaches a different set of equally bad programming habits. The problem is that it is hard to learn to program without an actual program that you need to write – made-up problems in teaching books don't really work because you always end up compromising and calling it "done" earlier than you would on a real problem. For this reason, the best language to learn on is probably the one that actually lets you get what you need done.

Mac OS X
Leopard

OS X 10.5 Leopard comes on DVD, but all the updates have to be downloaded.

You can learn the syntactical fundamentals of your chosen language pretty well online. There's a reasonable Pascal tutorial at **www.taoyue.com/tutorials/pascal**, for example. But for getting under the skin of good programming style, I can't recommend *Code Complete* by Steve McConnell highly enough. Seriously, anyone who earns a living as a programmer and hasn't read this book, should be immediately suspended without pay until they have.

iMOVIE QUALITY FOR YOUTUBE VIDEO

Q I've recently made the switch from PC to Mac and couldn't be happier. My new 2.0GHz aluminium MacBook is fantastic. It does everything I want it to do. However, I've run into a little dilemma with *iMovie '08*. I make a lot of video tutorials for YouTube to do with computers. I use the *iShowU* screen capture software, which records at an extremely high quality. The picture quality is fantastic and the frame rate is smooth. However, when I import into *iMovie '08* to add some titles I find that the quality suddenly drops significantly. The image becomes very pixelated. Any text on the screen becomes unreadable, which is very annoying. Also when I export the movie via *QuickTime* the quality is not much better. I was wondering if there was some sort of optimal setting for import and export options. I'm on OS X 10.5.6 and I'm running the latest version of *iMovie '08* and *iShowU*.

Alex Jackson

Q&A EXTRA | Essential Mac advice from www.macfixit.com

PC MIGRATION TO MAC: CONVERTING OUTLOOK TO MAC OS X MAIL

Many PC users migrating to Mac OS X will have stored their emails and other personal organisation data (such as calendars and contacts) in Microsoft *Outlook*. And when switching over, although setting up new email accounts is relatively simple, it can be really frustrating to migrate previously downloaded emails, contacts and calendars.

Apple Discussions poster hans.kamp writes: "I purchased my iMac several months ago after years of Windows experience… How can I move my email history from *Outlook 2007* into *Mail*. I checked the import options in *Mail*, but have not found a solution."

Apple advertises the Mac as a platform that is easy to migrate to. However, *Outlook* and some other Windows applications are so restricted in their support for universal filetypes that it makes migration rather difficult, especially for downloaded data such as emails that might not be on servers anymore. Fortunately, there are several ways of quickly maintaining workflow on the Mac while users migrate from their PCs.

MICROSOFT-BASED SOLUTIONS

Since modern Macs are built with Windows-compatible hardware, users have the option of installing the programs they use on the PC in the Mac. Apple provides a way to run Windows natively using *Boot Camp*, but this requires users to restart and not be able to access their Mac files while in Windows. To overcome this, for most *Office* applications users can install a copy of Windows to a virtual machine and access it using *VMWare Fusion* (**www.vmware.com/products/fusion**) or *Parallels Desktop* (**www.parallels.com**). These programs will allow users to run Windows and the desired applications nearly seamlessly next to Mac applications in OS X. As such, users can migrate their *Outlook* data to a virtual machine and be able to run it as a temporary solution to stay up and running on their new machines while deciding how to best migrate their data over to native OS X application.

HELLO FROM
CUPERTINO CA

NO SOUND | My MacBook is silent

Q My MacBook has stopped producing sound through its internal speakers. Attempting to change the volume produces a circle with a strikethrough, and in the past a red light has shone out of the earphone socket. I assume the socket pin has failed and is incorrectly detecting a plug (the speakers even crackle when contact is almost being made). However, the system does produce the welcome "beep" on startup and so surely the sound is being controlled by OS X rather than just the hardware? Is it therefore possible to override this to get the sound back rather than tamper with, or spend money on fixing the board?
Bradley Cheal

A This is a hardware fault, nothing to do with OS X. The red light indicates that the MacBook thinks it has a digital output plugged in. The switch for this is at the 3 o'clock position on the inside of the socket and it seems that it can sometimes become magnetised so that it sticks in the closed position. This has the rather counter-intuitive consequence that simply plugging and unplugging a jack in the headphone socket can often be enough to fix the problem. What happens is that the mechanical shock of all that jiggling, gradually demagnetises the socket and eventually the switch releases. This can take 20 or 30 unpluggings though. Slightly less brutish is to take something stiff and non-conductive – like a stout toothpick – and insert it along the right-hand edge of the socket to try and free the switch. This can work if it isn't too badly magnetised but there is still the distinct possibility that the switch will jam closed again at some point.

I have no data on this subject, but it seems like a reasonable precaution to say that if your MacBook hasn't already suffered from this problem, you should keep it away from large speakers and other strong magnets.

Keep your MacBook away from magnets in order to preserve the speakers.

A This catches a lot of people out and the blame often goes to the software not the users. The export options in *iMovie* are impenetrable. If you were using *iMovie HD* (which lots of people prefer to *iMovie '08*) it would be worse because what is labelled as the **Full Quality** export option isn't really the highest-quality setting available but instead interlaces the video producing a fuzzier DV stream. What you need to do is choose **Expert Settings** and save as a *QT* movie, with H.264 encoding, current size and frame rate. If you are using *iMovie '08*, that same settings dialog is available if you **Export as QuickTime…** and click **Options**.

The other thing that can be really helpful is to make sure that the frames you capture in *iShowU* are the same size as your target YouTube resolution. This avoids nasty aliasing blurriness as the frames are rescaled.

SHOPPING FROM TESCO ON A MAC

Q I am using a Mac running OS X 10.5.6. Up until August last year, together with my wife who also uses an identical Apple Mac, we were able to order online from Tesco. Since then we have been unable to sign in on their site, although we have no problem with any other online retailer website. I have tried without success to get help from their technical department.
Peter Vincent

A The problem with any workaround to this incompatibility is that it just reinforces Tesco's belief that it doesn't need to invest any effort in supporting browsers other than *Internet Explorer*. Tesco has publicly stated that it doesn't support *Mozilla* (ie *Firefox*) or *Opera*. *Safari* still seems to work from what I can see, but I think that's down to chance rather than any specific cross-platform strategy on Tesco's part. Really, we should all be writing letters of protest and then boycotting the online and offline versions of the store altogether.

But not shopping at Tesco is pretty difficult these days and not everyone has the time or the fire for sustained consumer action. If you want to stick with *Firefox*, there is a user agent switcher add-on that you can download from **https://addons.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/addon/59**. This lets you flip the tag that identifies your browser to websites. So if the website actually is mostly compatible but the developers have included a check for specific browsers because of sinister partnering agreements they have, or simply to allow them to hassle you with annoying graphical gee-gaws, you can fool them by getting *Firefox* to masquerade as *IE*.

QUICK TIP

Spotlight sums

If you type a sum or a mathematical equation into Spotlight, it will return the answer for you. However, this only works with the actual **Spotlight** dialog, not the embedded version in *Finder* or *Mail*.

An alternative to virtualisation solutions (which does require the installation and booting of Windows in the background) is a program called *Crossover* (**www.codeweavers.com**), which provides all the resources needed for certain Windows applications to run, without actually installing Windows itself. Microsoft *Outlook* is supported in this environment, and can be installed directly into OS X and import the data from Windows machines.

CONVERTING/IMPORTING TO MAC OS X

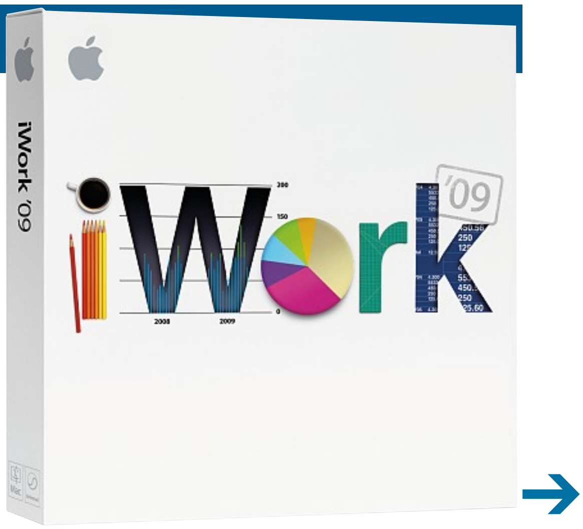
Unfortunately, Microsoft *Outlook* does not support exporting data from *Outlook* into formats that are easily or properly readable by other email clients. Even Microsoft's Mac mail client *Entourage* does not support importing data directly from *Outlook*, and, as such, is not that big of an intermediate step in migrating from Windows to the Mac. Users can do this using Microsoft's products, but it takes a lot of hassle and convoluted steps that include installing older versions of *Office*, which users may not have.

While the Microsoft-based solutions using virtualisation or *Crossover* will work temporarily for users, a more direct solution is to use the program *Outlook 2 Mac*, which does a good job in converting the Microsoft .pst files used in *Outlook* to formats that can be installed in *Mail*, *Address Book*, and *iCal*. The program will set you back $10 (£7), but it has had many positive reviews from users switching from Windows.

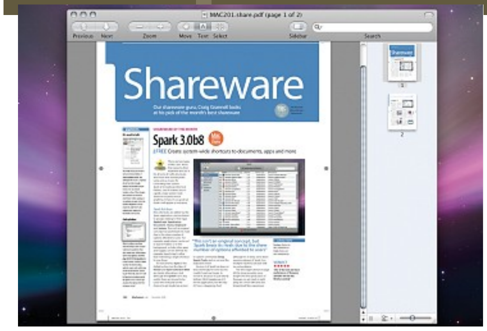
iWORK '09 PROBLEMS

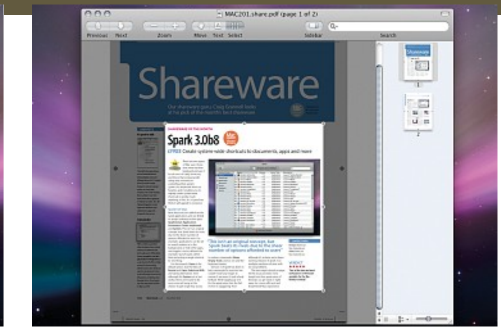
Users have reported an issue in which Quartz compositions (.qtz files) cannot be properly inserted into *Keynote* presentations. Users receive a white rectangle instead of the media.

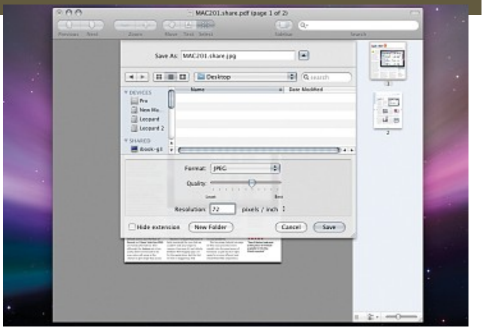
This problem might only occur on MacBook Pros, and seems to be solved by changing the graphics performance to "slower but more power efficient."



STEP BY STEP Quick image-cropping in Preview







01 Although the likes of *GraphicConverter* and *ImageWell* are more suitable for batch conversions, Apple's *Preview* is a great application for doing fast one-off image crops and format conversions. To get started, open your chosen document in *Preview*. You can use anything *Preview* can open – we're using a PDF.

02 Choose the **Select** tool from the toolbar (or use Tools > Select Tool or the shortcut ⌘+[3]), and draw a box around the part of the document you want to crop to. After you've dragged a selection, the remainder of the image will be greyed out. Amend your selection by using the circular drag handles.

03 To crop the document, go to Tools > Crop or use the keyboard shortcut ⌘+[K]. Go to File > Save and select **JPEG** for an image suitable for email. If a **Resolution** option is available and you're going to email the image, set the value to 72 pixels/inch. Click the **Save** button to save your cropped image. ●

QUICK TIP

Use Spotlight as a dictionary

You can also use Spotlight as a quick dictionary. Typing any word into the search box will list the definition of that word along with the files that contain it.

MOVING iPOD TOUCH APPLICATIONS

Q I enjoyed reading your article in the Jan 2009 issue about moving the main *iTunes* library to an external drive. I followed your step-by-step instructions and was able to move all my music, podcasts and movies over. However, my paid applications on my iPod touch remained on the Users/<myname>/Music/iTunes/Mobile Applications/. I would appreciate instructions on how to move these over as well.

Leonard Wong

A The applications will always be downloaded to the same location as the *iTunes* **Library** file, which lives in ~/Music/iTunes/ by default. If you move this file, your downloaded applications will follow it. But only new downloads. You'll need to manually copy over anything that has already been downloaded. When you next start *iTunes*, it will tell you it needs a library to continue. You need to point it to the original one that you have just moved so that it can find it in its new home.

ERASING TIME CAPSULE DATA

Q I just replaced the hard drive on my MacBook Pro and took the opportunity to clean out all my old files and trash etc. I want to erase my Time Capsule and start backing up on *Time Machine* with a fresh start, can you please advise how I can wipe the TC and start again?

Geoff Anstey

A Dead easy. Open Utilities > AirPort Utility, select the Time Capsule on the side bar, click the **Disks** icon above the settings. Click your Time Capsule at the top of this list and click the **Erase** button. There are a couple of **Are you sure?** dialogs and you're done.

ANOTHER WAY TO RIP DVDs TO YOUR MAC

Q In reply to the question by Leonard in *MF*204, regarding copying DVDs onto his Mac: Why would you want to go to all this trouble converting Video TS files to play them in *iTunes*?

As Leonard knows how to store the Video TS file on his HD, all he has to do is to drop the Video TS file onto the Apple *DVD Player*, and, hey presto, it plays and with all the facilities he had with a DVD. I keep the *DVD Player* in my dock for just this purpose.

If Leonard wishes to keep and play copy-protected DVDs on his Mac, there is an excellent application he can use called *Drive-in* (www.telestream.net/drive-in/). This allows you to rip and play any DVD legally on your Mac for $39 (£26), and they are still copy-protected, so you can only play them on your own Mac, although there is a five-seat licence available, if you wish.

David Wilson

Q&A EXTRA | Essential Mac advice from www.macfixit.com

NUMBERS CRASHING

Some users have reported *Numbers '09* crashes under various circumstances. In some cases, this issue can be resolved by deleting the file ~/Library/Preferences/com.apple.iwork.Numbers.plist then restarting *Numbers*.

KEYNOTE '09 CANNOT OPEN FILES

Users have reported problems opening files under *Keynote '09*. In some cases, this issue (and potential other issues caused by it) may be solved by removing problematic themes. Open the folder: /Library/Application Support/iWork/Keynote/Themes. You can then remove any third-party party themes, and try to open the file again.

The ability to export files in *Flash* appears to missing from *Keynote '09*. According to Apple, they say "when viewing a *Flash* file that you've exported from a *Keynote* project, you may notice that some of your transitions have been replaced with a dissolve. Other transitions that are present may play much slower than they did in your original presentation."

The suggested solution is to export to *QuickTime* instead of *Flash*.

MISSING TRANSITIONS

Some users have noted a lack of themes in *Keynote '09*. The themes are hidden. Navigate to **General Preferences** and check the option to **Include obsolete animations in choices.**

TIPS SUPPLIED BY MACFIXIT.COM

MacFixIt, founded in 1996 by Ted Landau, has grown into the premiere destination for users seeking resolutions to bugs and conflicts. Visit www.macfixit.com for the latest Mac information.

MacFixIt
Troubleshooting Solutions for the Macintosh

Time Capsule is a wireless solution from Apple for making *Time Machine* backups, so there's no need to plug in an external drive.

A Another perfectly valid solution to the problem. I originally recommended *HandBrake* (**http://handbrake.fr/**), which does much the same thing (and is free). I have no particular axe to grind, either way.

AUTOMATIC RELAUNCHING

Q I use a Mac Pro with OS 10.5.6. My problem is that on closing down – whether I go to the menu bar, or via log out and then click on the shut down symbol – the result is my Mac auto-restarts. It happened with my previous G4, on which I had *Time Machine* running. So when I installed my new Mac Pro, *Time Machine* restored everything – including, obviously, this propensity to restart! I disabled automatic restart after power failure to no effect. Any ideas?

Laurie North

A If your Mac is powering itself up from "soft-off" (the power state when the Mac has completely shut but is still connected to the mains), then you have a faulty power switch or a faulty **System Management Controller**. With the odds being in favour of the latter, resetting the **SMC** is enough to fix this in about 70% of cases. Shut down, then uplug all the cables – including power and display cables – and wait 15 seconds. Now plug the power cable in first and then all the others. Power back up and you should be good to go. If that doesn't fix your Mac, you'll need to get the motherboard replaced at an authorised service centre.

CAN I UNDELETE PROGRAMS?

Q I accidentally deleted a couple of files off my system. Is there any way of recovering them (either through using the OS or a utility)? I am running an eMac G4 with 10.2.8.

Stewart Hendry

A If you have emptied the Trash and you don't have a backup, your chances are slim. On PCs and disks using the FAT filing system, erased files are marked with a ?. This makes it easy for an undelete routine to find deleted files and recover them. HFS isn't like that. When you empty the recycle bin, all the identifying information that specifies where the file is stored on the disk is erased. The file contents will still be there for a while but there is no way for a utility to identify, which disk sectors are part of your file. Not only that but OS X will flush unused cache pages to disk every 30 seconds so it will get overwritten by system data

Most OS X undelete utilities rely on installing something that tracks information about deleted files so that they can be recovered *in the future* – they don't help with files that were erased before you installed the software. There are some utilities that will attempt to scan the free space on your disk for certain byte patterns that might belong to your files. *Data Rescue II* (**www.prosoftengineering.com/products/data_rescue.php**) is an example of this type of application. These utilities work best on disks that have been damaged by power outages or hardware failure. Trash and *Time Machine* will protect your files from deletion, if you use them.

BROKEN iCAL PROGRAM IN OS X

Q I cannot open *iCal*. Can you help?

Pete Carroll

A *iCal* problems are usually caused by corrupted cache or calendar files. Try deleting all the cache files from **~\Library\Calendars** first. If that doesn't help, move the calendar files to a different folder first so you don't lose the data until you have confirmed which file is responsible. If *iCal* starts, move the calendar files back one at a time. If it still won't start, you'll need to reinstall the application itself from the OS X DVD. ●

The Mac Pro that refused to shut down…

ON THE FORUM

Swift responses to members' questions

Q I recently had a scare when a persistent clicking noise and serious-sounding hum emitted from my 24-inch iMac (when attempting to open a website). Within seconds this led to a total freeze-up. I couldn't restart or shut down so had to finally pull the plug. Next day I reconnected and all seemed well, so far.

A week earlier I noticed similar noises when *Norton Antivirus* was doing its weekly check and download of updates. Could this have started the rot? And, is this my hard drive falling to bits? The iMac is less than two years old.

Stooky Bill Joined: 04 Apr 2007 Posts: 44 Location: Kent

A If you haven't done so already, back up your entire system RIGHT NOW. If you haven't the means, quit using your Mac, get an external hard drive and either use *Time Machine*, *SuperDuper!* or *Carbon Copy Cloner* to clone your entire system. It might not be your hard drive, but if it is and it's been clicking, the thing could go at any minute.

CraigGrannell Joined: 16 Apr 2003 Posts: 807 Location: Fleet, UK
MacFormat contributor

Q My 3G 16GB iPhone is stuck on the **Favourites** screen! I got to work today, and I was confronted with the **Favourites** screen when I took my iPhone out of my bag. I have switched it off but as soon as I restart and **Slide To Unlock** it goes straight to **Favourites**. I can go to all of the features at the bottom of the screen but as soon as I press the main button it goes straight back to **Favourites**. The volume control doesn't work either, but, I can make and receive calls.

Julian Joined: 25 Apr 2004 Posts: 508 Location: Nailsworth, Gloucestershire

A Try a hard reset. Hold the **Home** and **Sleep** button until the Apple appears. If that doesn't work, do a full restore with *iTunes*.

James. Joined: 04 May 2005 Posts: 2346 Location: North Hertfordshire

Q I am currently setting up my MacBook to use with an external screen for a VJ set with our band. The problem I have is that we are using a software-based VJ program, and when I go to full screen both the MacBook screen and external monitor show the same image. What I need to do is have the MacBook show the software (*Arkaos*) and the external screen show the full-screen output from the software, if that makes sense…

Barking Ted Joined: 22 Jul 2006 Posts: 217 Location: Kent, UK

A Is the MacBook showing the same screen on both displays even on the Desktop? If so, go to *System Preferences* and turn off the mirroring. If the VJ software shows full screen to one screen then set the external monitor to be the main screen on the Mac. Do this by dragging the Dock/menu bar over to it in the thumbnail version in System Preferences > Displays. When going to full-screen mode in the software it might blackout the screen with palettes. To work properly the app needs to be designed to do this just like *Aperture* is for photos.

FocusGhia Joined: 07 May 2003 Posts: 4892 Location: London, UK

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Have you heard the news? Apple co-founder Steve Wozniak is to appear on *Dancing with the Stars* in the US. We won't be reviewing his tangos and waltzes in *MacFormat* – we'd rather cover the latest Mac software and peripherals.

This month we start the ball rolling with *iLife '09*, the latest release of Apple's amazing lifestyle suite. There's some great new features in almost every app, with *iPhoto* especially benefiting from a useful makeover. **Faces** and **Places** are the headline-grabbers, but don't miss the beefed-up correction tools.

Elsewhere, we take a look at Data Robotics' Drobo, an amazing hard drive system that protects your data and lets you mix drives of differing capacities. The iBLIK RadioStation is arguably the last word in internet, DAB and FM radio, and Cocoatech's *Path Finder* is an exciting alternative to Mac OS X's much-maligned *Finder*.

So what are you waiting for? Turn the page and get started…

Data Robotics Drobo **p89**

Apple's new *iLife '09* suite **p76**

Six Mac instant messengers **p102**

Reviews

Read the best independent reviews of all the latest hardware and software every month, before parting with your cash

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Our logos explained

Mac FORMAT Choice ★★★★★

A product that receives the **MacFormat Choice** is the best in its class at the time of review, and a product on which we would be happy to spend our own money.

Mac FORMAT Winner ★★★★★

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Our star ratings

★★★★★	Excellent – MacFormat choice
★★★★☆	Very Good – recommended
★★★☆☆	Good – but you could buy better
★★☆☆☆	Adequate – needs more development
★☆☆☆☆	Poor – keep your money in your wallet

PHOTO MANAGEMENT

Apple iPhoto '09

Mac FORMAT Choice ★★★★★

£69 (part of iLife '09) Introducing Places and Faces – brand-new features in this photo-management favourite

CONTACT INFO

Developer Apple
www.apple.com/uk
Latest price on TechRadar
www.techradar.com/527969

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

Intel or PowerPC G4 or G5 867GHz, 512MB RAM (1GB recommended), Mac OS X 10.5.6, 4GB HD space, DVD drive for installation, *QuickTime 7.5.5* (included)

FOR AND AGAINST

- + Faces adds new context to photos
- + Places is a useful addition
- + Practical new editing tools
- + Export slideshows to iPod or Apple TV
- – Faces has room for improvement
- – Very few cameras feature GPS

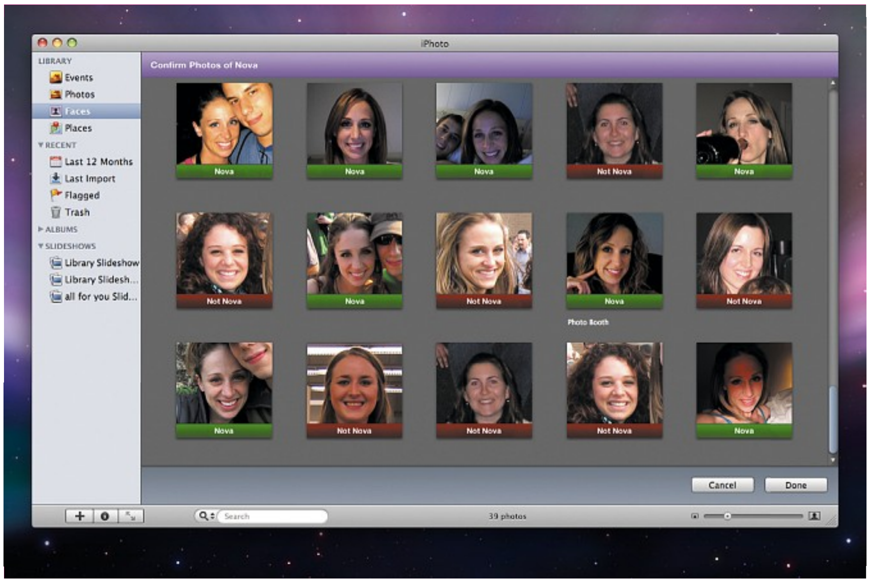
VERDICT

★★★★★

"The new features are great, but there's some room for improvement in Faces."

With every year, your digital photo collection is likely to grow by hundreds of new photos. *iPhoto '08* added a feature called **Events** that did its best to group photos by the event they were taken at. This made it easier to find the photos you wanted when your collection got too unruly to browse by individual photo.

iPhoto '09 continues this idea of automation with **Faces**, its most highly touted new feature. **Faces** works by analysing your *iPhoto* library, a one-time process that can take several minutes to several hours depending on how vast your library is. It then presents you with the photos it thinks contains the same person as you previously identified in another photo.



Faces analyses the people in your photo library and recognises them so you can tag them in further photos. It's clever, but not entirely hitch-free…

Using Faces

In theory, **Faces** is a terrific timesaver that also enhances the photos you share with others. In practice, it involves more legwork than Apple's literature or demos would have you to believe.

Faces works best when subjects are well lit and looking directly at the camera: it won't work well with profiles and is less effective in low-light settings. It also struggles with siblings, presumably because the facial features the algorithm uses to determine likeness are the same ones we share with our family members. If anyone has ever told you that you look just like your brother or sister, **Faces** will happily remind you of that, again and again and again.

Almost acknowledging that it's not perfect, **Faces** will not automatically tag any other photos, instead prompting you to tell it on a per-photo basis if the person it thinks looks like Elizabeth is really her or not.

> "Faces works best when subjects are looking directly at the camera: it won't work that well with profiles"

To be fair, accuracy improves somewhat as you tag more photos of the same person, and *iPhoto '09* offers the best face-recognition that we have seen in any consumer product.

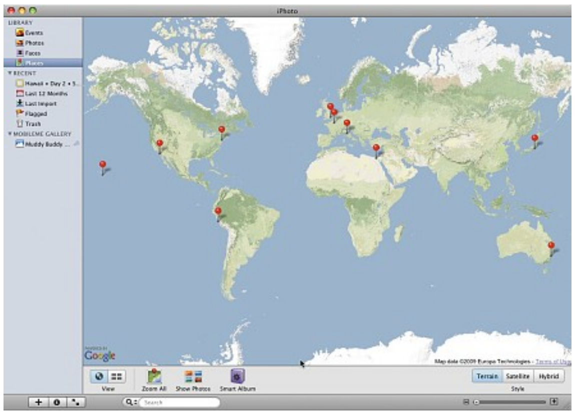
If you're a Facebook user, two treats await you in *iPhoto '09*: not only can you publish galleries to your account with a single click and specify who can see them, your **Faces** tags carry over, as well. Facebook integration is also bidirectional, meaning if you mistakenly tag someone with the wrong name or don't tag them at all and a friend adds the correct name on Facebook, the changes will be reflected in *iPhoto*, as well.

Further lending context to photos is the new **Places** feature, which allows you to assign geographic coordinates for where a particular photo was taken. This feature, commonly referred to as geotagging, is accomplished automatically if your camera features GPS, but odds are that it doesn't since so few on the market currently do. As that functionality expands across more models, so too will the usefulness of **Places**.

GPS is not required for **Places**, and you can enter the information manually. Accuracy will obviously be diminished with this approach since you will probably just be entering a city name and not specific coordinates, but you will still be able to see on a nice map where you captured your memories.

Places also allows you to create and order much-improved printed albums of your photos than before, complete with a high-resolution map of your travels, for instance. You can also order hard cover photo books with matching dust jackets, in addition to the soft cover and wire bound books on offer.

Places is a new feature that tags where you took the photo. This function is enhanced with geotagged images.



More features

Other improvements to *iPhoto '09* include new themed slideshows and an improved Ken Burns slideshow that leverages the new face-recognition technology to ensure no one's head gets cut off as the slideshow pans and zooms. You can also export slideshows to *iTunes* to view on your iPod, iPhone or Apple TV.

Finally, *iPhoto's* editing tools continue to improve: **Auto Red-Eye** works with a single click, skin tones can be excluded when adjusting a photo's saturation, and a new **Definition** tool adjusts local contrast, so you can improve the background without blowing out the foreground, for example.

Misha Sakellaropoulo

MOVIE-MAKING PROGRAM

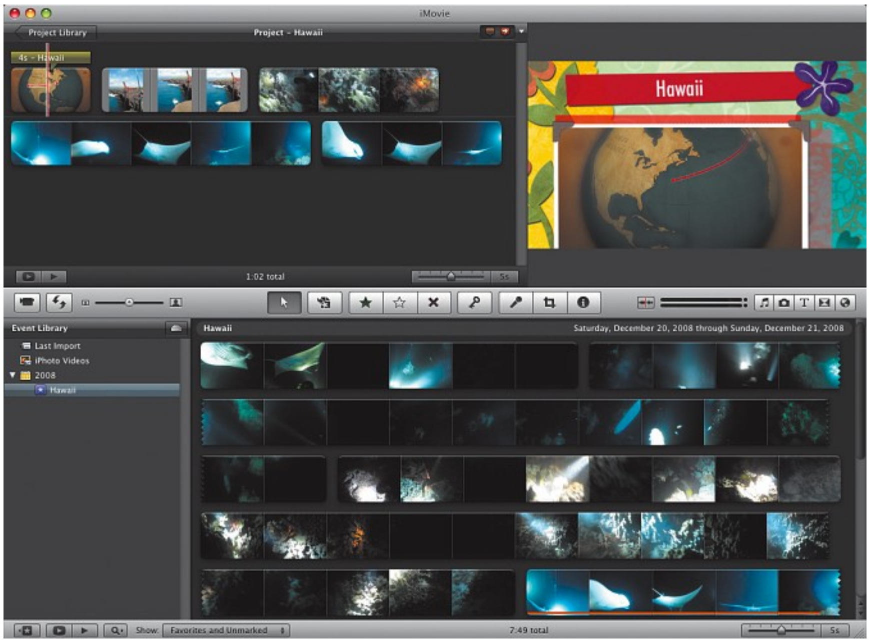
Apple iMovie '09

£69 (part of iLife '09) Can this latest version bring back the movie goodness that was sadly lost in '08?

When Apple released *iMovie '08*, it did something it had never done before with an *iLife* app: it threw away six versions and started over from scratch.

The motivation to refocus *iMovie* stemmed from *iLife's* goal of making media simple to work with. *iMovie '08* accomplished that, enabling clips to be stitched together and shared on YouTube or MobileMe in next to no time.

But with that simplicity came sacrifice, and editing features that had previously been available in *iMovie* were missing. So loud was the outcry from users that soon after the release of *iMovie '08* Apple made the older *iMovie HD 6* available to all *'08* users. Conspiracy theories abounded that Apple had dumbed down *iMovie* as a means to sell more copies of its pricey *Final Cut Express* video-editing package.



Creating this animated introduction with travel map and theme took just seconds with *iMovie '09*.

New and improved?

iMovie '09, without a doubt, will silence those critics. It combines the faster, simpler, and more straightforward interface of *iMovie '08* with the editing tools of versions past, all the while packing even more powerful features into the software (be sure to turn some of these on by selecting **Show Advance Tools** from *iMovie's* **Preferences**).

Working with *iMovie '09* is a joy: ploughing through footage you shot is now fun and so easy. As with *iMovie '08*, the first step is to select the portions of the clips you want to use from the **Event Browser** and drag them to the **Project** window. But it's at that point that the similarities between the two versions largely ends.

The new **Precision Editor** makes it easy to adjust your clips, and each clip features a context-sensitive menu, quickly turning your vision into reality. These features run the gamut from using only the audio of a particular clip to inserting a second video as a picture-in-picture, ideal for presentations or narrations.

19 video effects are at your fingertips, including **Black & White** and **Sepia** to the more interesting **Vignette** and **Aged Film**. These effects, like virtually every other feature of *iMovie*, are all applied in real-time to your video, so there is no waiting for it to render.

> "The new Precision Editor makes it easy to adjust your clips, quickly turning your vision into reality"

Two of the most impressive additions to *iMovie '09* have never been seen outside of Apple's *Final Cut* tools: **Green Screening** and **Video Stabilization**. Both are good insofar as they require no input from the user. To take advantage of the **Green Screen** feature, film a clip with a saturated green backdrop and drag it on top of the clip in *iMovie's* **Event Browser**, which you wish to use as the background, and specify it as a **Green Screen**. If you wish, the masking can be improved by tightening the crop of the **Green Screen** video.

Enabling **Video Stabilization** requires just a single click and a bit of waiting, as it's the only feature of *iMovie '09* that isn't rendered in real-time. The length of time this takes varies, depending on the resolution of the video and the length of the clip that is being stabilised. The results are generally good and will always be welcomed by your viewers.

Maps and globes

In a nod to *iPhoto's* new **Places** features, *iMovie '09* offers a number of different maps and globes that are perfect for inserting into any video involving travel (provided the journey is more than a few hundred miles away since you can't zoom). Other enhancements include dynamic themes, fast and slow motion, as well as new titles, transitions and effects.

iMovie can export your video to many formats or directly to *iTunes*, *iDVD*, YouTube or MobileMe. While *iMovie* supports high-definition cameras and formats, you won't be able to burn a Blu-ray disc of your work. But an external Blu-ray burner and a copy of Roxio's *Toast 10 Titanium* (reviewed on page 80) with the additional Blu-ray plug-in will do the job.

Misha Sakellaropoulo

CONTACT INFO

Developer Apple
www.apple.com/uk
Latest price on TechRadar
www.techradar.com/527981

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

Intel or PowerPC G5 (dual 2GHz) or iMac G5 1.9GHz, 512MB RAM (1GB recommended), Mac OS X 10.5.6, 4GB HD space, DVD drive for installation, *QuickTime 7.5.5* (included)

FOR AND AGAINST

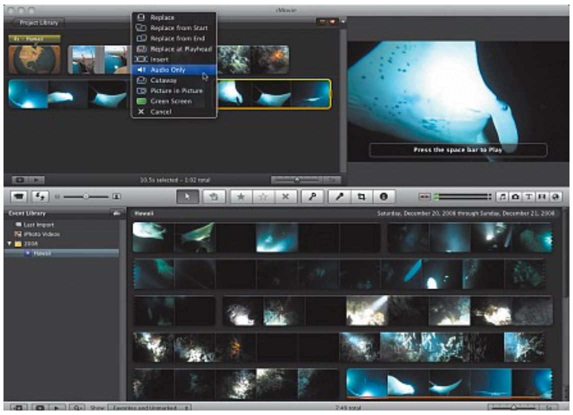
⊕ Video Stabilization is great
⊕ Powerful editing tools
⊕ Fast and easy interface
⊕ Easy export options
⊖ No dedicated audio track editor
⊖ No Blu-ray support

VERDICT

★★★★☆

"There are some great features here but lack of Blu-ray support is a letdown."

Dragging one clip on top of another delivers a number of brand-new features.



MUSIC-MAKING AND TUTORIALS

GarageBand '09

£69 (part of iLife '09) The music-maker returns with a slight update and some familiar faces to help you play

CONTACT INFO

Developer Apple
www.apple.com/uk
Latest price on TechRadar
www.techradar.com/527990

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

Intel or PowerPC G4 or G5 867GHz (Learn to Play requires Intel Mac dual core or better), 512MB RAM (1GB recommended), Mac OS X 10.5.6, 4GB HD space, DVD drive for installation, *QuickTime 7.5.5* (included)

FOR AND AGAINST

- ⊕ Easy yet powerful
- ⊕ New **Lesson Store** and **Learn to Play**
- ⊕ Create iPhone ringtones with ease
- ⊖ Requires a dual-core Intel processor
- ⊖ Lessons only play in full-screen mode
- ⊖ Few new features and loops

VERDICT

★★★★☆

"It's all still good fun, but in terms of new developments there's nothing major happening and it's frustrating not to have more music lessons available at the moment."

Core components of *GarageBand '09* are mostly unchanged from the *'08* version. The interface has been touched up slightly to bring it in line with other *iLife* apps like *iMovie*, but in terms of functionality, there is nothing substantially new.

A new splashscreen better organises what you can do with *GarageBand*, including a prominent **iPhone Ringtone** feature. Apple had quietly introduced the ability to export tracks as ringtones in an update to *GarageBand '08* but kept it fairly hidden.

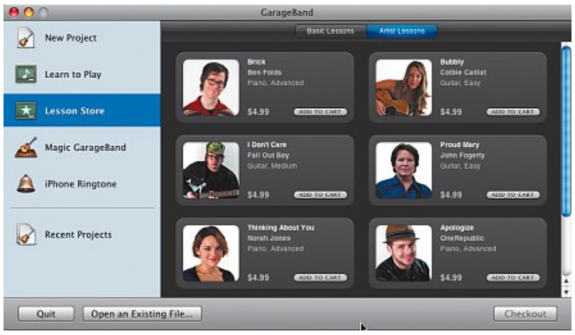
By far the most significant and publicised addition to *GarageBand '09* is **Learn to Play**, a fun feature that promises to teach you how to play the guitar or piano.

GarageBand currently offers just nine lessons each and they are somewhat on the basic end of the spectrum.

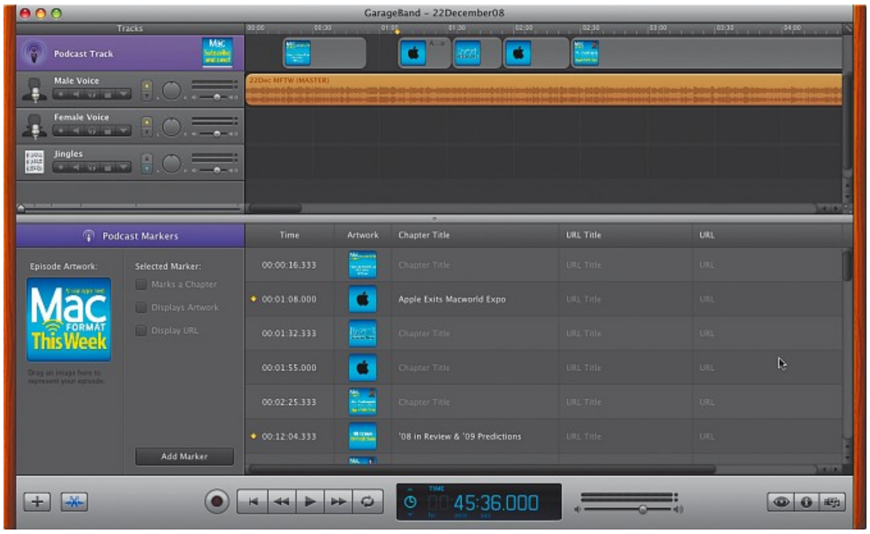
Whether Apple will add additional lessons down the road remains a mystery, at the moment, but it does seem like the next logical step.

Back to school

Only the first lesson for each instrument is included on the *iLife* DVD, the remaining ones can be downloaded free of charge. At between 200MB to 300MB each, the download proposition could be daunting for those on slower connections or with transfer caps, and annoyingly you cannot pause or cancel a download once it has started.


GarageBand
New Project
Learn to Play
Lesson Store
Magic GarageBand
iPhone Ringtone
Recent Projects
Basic Lessons
Artist Lessons
Brick
Ben Folds
Piano, Advanced
$4.99
Bubbly
Colbie Caillat
Guitar, Easy
$4.99
I Don't Care
Fall Out Boy
Guitar, Medium
$4.99
Proud Mary
John Fogerty
Guitar, Easy
$4.99
Thinking About You
Norah Jones
Piano, Advanced
$4.99
Apologize
OneRepublic
Piano, Advanced
$4.99
ADD TO CART
Quit
Open an Existing File...
Checkout

From Ben Folds to Fall Out Boy the professionals are on hand to help out.


GarageBand - 22December08
Tracks
Podcast Track
Male Voice
Female Voice
Jingles
22Dec MFTW (MASTER)
Podcast Markers
Episode Artwork:
Mac FORMAT This Week
Drag an image here to represent your episode.
Selected Marker:
Marks a Chapter
Displays Artwork
Display URL
Add Marker
45:36.000

Time	Chapter Title	URL Title	URL
00:00:16.333	Chapter Title	URL Title	URL
00:01:08.000	Apple Exits Macworld Expo	URL Title	URL
00:01:32.333	Chapter Title	URL Title	URL
00:01:55.000	Chapter Title	URL Title	URL
00:02:25.333	Chapter Title	URL Title	URL
00:12:04.333	'08 in Review & '09 Predictions	URL Title	URL

GarageBand is still a great option if you want to create your own podcasts or enjoy composing music on your Mac.

Whether you will have success learning the guitar or piano with *GarageBand*'s lessons depends on what experience you already have, your natural ability, and level of patience.

The guitar lessons are well structured, starting with how to hold a guitar, the desired posture, and how to pick and strum. The lessons even feature a guitar tuner that works off your Mac's built-in mic (or other input source) to gauge how in tune each string on your guitar is and tells you how to improve it.

The lessons take you through learning chords, chord progressions, and single-tone melodies and ends up with teaching you how to play some blues. The biggest problem with the guitar lessons is their inherently passive nature – you may learn chord diagrams, but you won't enjoy the benefit of an instructor telling you what you're doing wrong or how best to position your own hand as you teach your fingers where they need to be.

Because of the less technical nature of the piano, those lessons will be more straightforward for novices. They also have the benefit of allowing you to plug a USB or MIDI keyboard into your Mac to play along and see how you're actually doing.

However, the piano lessons aren't without their awkward moments: they glaze over teaching you how to read music in just a matter of minutes, so expect to be doing a lot of pausing and rewinding, especially at the beginning.

> "GarageBand's Artist Lessons are the one neat feature you won't get from your local instructor"

After spending hours trying both the guitar and piano lessons, we feel that **Learn to Play** will not so much replace traditional music instruction but just simply augment it. Those with some experience or natural ability may be able to go far with *GarageBand*'s lessons, but it's more likely that most will probably use them only as an initial start or to supplement formal lessons.

GarageBand's **Artist Lessons** is the one neat feature you won't get from your local instructor. These special lessons feature a prominent musician (such as Sting or Norah Jones) who teaches you how to play one of their songs on the guitar or piano.

Fun for beginners

At the time of press, Apple only offered eight **Artist Lessons**. We assume that more will be added in the future, especially seeing as Apple profits from these and since three of the four guitar lessons are labelled up as **Easy** with no **Advanced** lesson offered, while three of of the four piano lessons are **Advanced** with no **Easy** ones available.

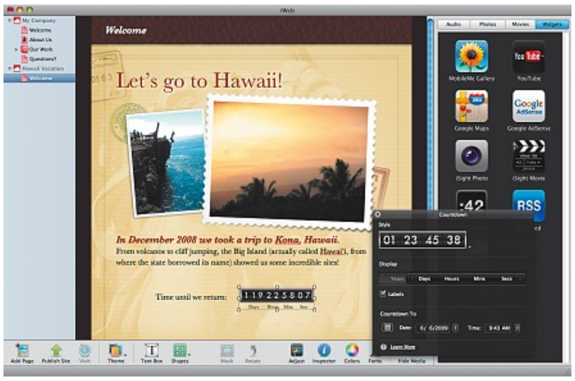
GarageBand remains an excellent choice for composing music on your Mac or creating podcasts. If you are already familiar with it, this new release will feel somewhat underwhelming but if it's your first time, you're in for a treat. And, for those of us without any musical ability whatsoever, we finally have a reason to join our more musically inclined friends in a program they have so much fun with.

Misha Sakellaropoulo

EASY WEB BUILDER

Apple iWeb '09

£69 (part of iLife '09) The easy-to-use web builder only has a few new features



In December 2008 we took a trip to Kona, Hawaii.
From volcanoes to cliff jumping, the Big Island (actually called Hawai'i, from where the state borrowed its name) showed us some incredible sites!

iWeb '09 **is ideal if you're after a casual fling with website creation rather than something more serious.**

Apple's website creation tool, *iWeb*, made a big splash when it debuted in *iLife '06* but has since been neglected, which is a shame because the application, in theory, is very attractive.

In contrast to other *iLife* components, *iWeb '09* continues to practically discourage individual creativity. Basic editing tools and controls mean working outside the boundaries of included themes can be frustrating and just two new themes have been added in the new version.

Only a minority of those themes are versatile; quite a few only suit one purpose, like the **Road Trip** or **Comic Book** themes, while others are decidedly juvenile or flat in appearance. If your goal is to put together a personal website with as little effort as possible, or quickly share a collection of media with the world, *iWeb* is golden. But if you are serious about blogging or are trying to build a site for your business, you should probably look elsewhere.

However, there is a new feature that makes *iWeb* a bit more compelling: the ability to upload your site to any server via FTP. Previously, you needed a MobileMe account to publish a site automatically, otherwise you were forced to save the site locally and upload it manually to your own server.

While it's nice to see a feature come into fruition (especially when it should have been there when *iWeb* was first released), other features, such as previewing your site offline, are still missing.

Instead, the significant addition to *iWeb* is moving widgets and the media browser into a sidebar. The widgets for embedding YouTube videos, Google maps, and more work well, and the implementation is ideal, but it's not enough to make up for the fact that *iWeb* remains limited.

Misha Sakellaropoulo

CONTACT INFO

Developer Apple
www.apple.com/uk
Latest price on TechRadar
www.techradar.com/527997

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

Intel or PowerPC G4 or G5 867GHz, 512MB RAM, Mac OS X 10.5.6, 4GB HD space, DVD drive, *QuickTime 7.5.5* (included)

FOR AND AGAINST

- ⊕ Virtually zero-learning curve
- ⊕ Publish directly via FTP (at last)
- ⊕ Widgets add modern touches to sites
- ⊖ Most templates are too focused or flat
- ⊖ No (easy) offline preview
- ⊖ Limited design options

VERDICT

★★½☆☆

"iWeb is easy to use, but its relatively few included themes lack versatility."

CREATIVITY SUITE

Apple iLife '09

£69 What do we think as a whole?

iLife '09
iLife '09
Mac

Apple *iLife '09* is the most impressive collection of consumer media applications on the market and represents a solid – if at times, subtle – step forward.

As it did with previous versions, Apple is bundling *iLife '09* on all new Macs, so the more relevant question is not how good *iLife '09* is, but whether the new version merits upgrading to for existing *iLife* users.

If you are an *iLife '06* user and your system can run Mac OS X 10.5 smoothly, *iLife '09* is certainly a significant step forward, but if you are happy with *iLife '08* then it definitely becomes a harder sell.

It is apparent that Apple itself is trying to figure out where to take *iLife*, so much so that the most upgraded component in the suite – *iMovie* – is compelling only because features that were removed have returned. Nonetheless, if you're a video-editing junkie this latest version of *iMovie* will be a good reason to upgrade.

iPhoto has several useful enhancements but nothing is a showstopper. If this is where you spend most of your *iLife* time you may choose to forego the new version.

iDVD is literally identical to the *'08* version, while *iWeb '09* offers very little in the way of new features and remains a relatively simple and restrictive tool for building a website. *GarageBand* has a more polished interface, but its biggest feature – the music lessons – are only likely to appeal to a limited user base, especially since they require an Intel Mac with a dual-core processor in order to work.

Finally, there is the matter of cost: Apple offers no discounts to owners of earlier versions, so whether you are running *iLife '04*, *'06* or *'08*, the *'09* version will cost you the same £69. For homes with multiple Macs, the value proposition is better, as £85 buys you the *Family Pack* with rights to install the software on up to five different Macs.

Misha Sakellaropoulo

CONTACT INFO

Developer Apple
www.apple.com/uk
Latest price on TechRadar
www.techradar.com/514083

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

G4 or G5 867GHz (dual 2GHz or iMac G5 1.9GHz needed for *iMovie*), 512MB RAM, Mac OS X 10.5.6, 4GB HD space

FOR AND AGAINST

- ⊕ *iMovie* dazzles once more
- ⊕ Faces and Facebook integration
- ⊕ *GarageBand* lessons are quite effective
- ⊖ *iWeb* remains weak
- ⊖ *iDVD* not updated; no Blu-ray support
- ⊖ *GB* lessons require a dual-core Intel Mac

VERDICT

★★★★☆

"On balance worth the upgrade, mainly for the iMovie '08 improvements. "

DISC BURNING AND CONVERSION UTILITY

Roxio Toast 10 Titanium

£80 Roxio's Toast now does a little too much for its own good, but still not as much as it used to…

CONTACT INFO

Developer: Roxio
www.roxio.co.uk
Latest price on TechRadar:
www.techradar.com/528046

PRICING DETAILS

Standard: £80
Pro: £120
Blu-ray (HD/BD) plug-in: £15
Upgrades: £65/£100

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

G4 or greater, G5 or Intel processor required for encoding and viewing high definition content, Mac OS X v10.5.x, 800MB of temporary free disk space to install components, up to 15GB of temporary free disk space during usage, *QuickTime v7.x*, CD, DVD, or Blu-ray recordable drive, internet connection required for some functionality

FOR AND AGAINST

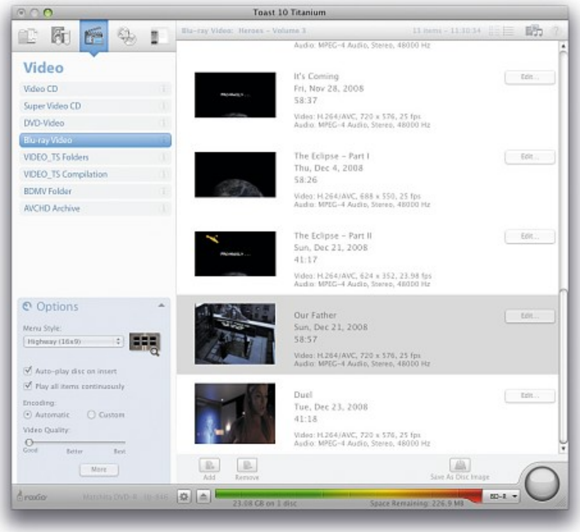
- + Cleaner interface
- + Good new themes
- + As rock solid as ever
- − Too expensive
- − Too much functionality hidden away
- − Most new functionality unnecessary

VERDICT

★★★☆☆

"Still rock solid, but Roxio needs to go back to the drawing board and work out what Toast should be for."

There are 20 new themes available for CDs, DVDs and Blu-ray discs.


Toast 10 Titanium
Blu-ray Video: Heroes – Volume 3
Video
Video CD
Super Video CD
DVD-Video
Blu-ray Video
VIDEO_TS Folders
VIDEO_TS Compilation
BDMV Folder
AVCHD Archive
Options
Menu Style:
Highway (16x9)
☑ Auto-play disc on insert
☑ Play all items continuously
Encoding:
● Automatic ○ Custom
Video Quality:
Good Better Best
More
Edit...
Add
Remove
Save As Disc Image
23.08 GB on 1 disc
Space Remaining: 226.9 MB
BD-R

Audio: MPEG-4 Audio, Stereo, 48000 Hz

It's Coming
Fri, Nov 28, 2008
58:37
Video: H.264/AVC, 720 x 576, 25 fps
Audio: MPEG-4 Audio, Stereo, 48000 Hz

The Eclipse – Part I
Thu, Dec 4, 2008
58:26
Video: H.264/AVC, 688 x 550, 25 fps
Audio: MPEG-4 Audio, Stereo, 48000 Hz

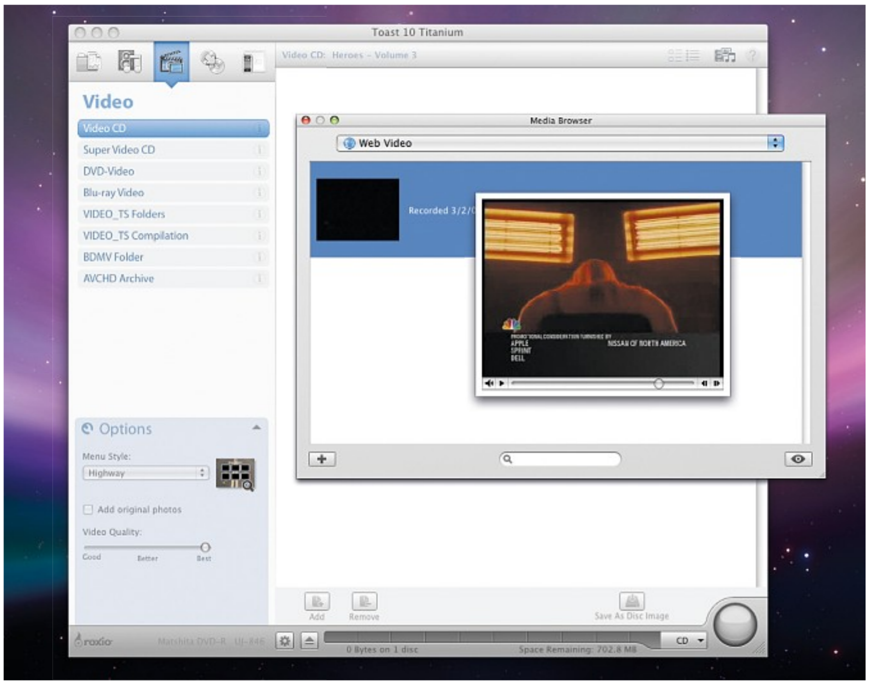
The Eclipse – Part II
Sun, Dec 21, 2008
41:17
Video: H.264/AVC, 624 x 352, 23.98 fps
Audio: MPEG-4 Audio, Stereo, 48000 Hz

Our Father
Sun, Dec 21, 2008
58:57
Video: H.264/AVC, 720 x 576, 25 fps
Audio: MPEG-4 Audio, Stereo, 48000 Hz

Duel
Tue, Dec 23, 2008
41:18
Video: H.264/AVC, 720 x 576, 25 fps
Audio: MPEG-4 Audio, Stereo, 48000 Hz

There comes a point in almost every mature software program's life when its developers look at themselves and ask, "What are we going to put in this now?" Roxio's disc-burning program *Toast Titanium* passed that point some time ago…

The base *Toast* software is the CD, DVD and – with the aid of a paid-for plug-in – Blu-ray burning program. Give it video or audio and *Toast* will burn it to a disc for you, in one of many formats, from data backup through to MP3 CD through to Video CD or DVD. Like *iDVD*, it also comes with menu themes, so you don't have to stare at file listings or a blank screen. *Toast 10* has 20 new menu styles, which replace those from *Toast 9*.


Toast 10 Titanium
Video CD: Heroes – Volume 3
Video
Video CD
Super Video CD
DVD-Video
Blu-ray Video
VIDEO_TS Folders
VIDEO_TS Compilation
BDMV Folder
AVCHD Archive
Options
Menu Style:
Highway
☐ Add original photos
Video Quality:
Good Better Best
Media Browser
Web Video
Recorded 3/2/
Add
Remove
Save As Disc Image
0 Bytes on 1 disc
Space Remaining: 702.8 MB
CD

Just one of the many things that *Toast* offers is the ability to capture streamed *Flash* video over the web and use it in your projects.

Too much of a good thing?

As well as this range of destination formats, there's a wide range of sources you can use: there's an *iPhoto* and *iTunes* browser, and tools for compressing videos down so they'll fit onto smaller discs, merging disc images and more. New to *Toast 10* are functions for creating AVCHD archives from your high-def camcorder, so you can archive video for use later; and a tool for creating compilation DVDs from VIDEO_TS folders. But, note that Roxio has removed HD-DVD and DivX disc authoring capabilities.

Unfortunately, to justify *Toast 10*'s rather hefty £80-£120 price tag, Roxio has thrown in just about everything but the kitchen sink. There's a conversion tool that lets you take video and convert it to play on iPods, PlayStations, PSPs, Blackberries, Treos, and other devices. You can extract clips from DVD-Video for conversion. There's a new tool for converting audiobook CDs into iPod audiobook format while changing the playback speed. There's even a tool that enables you to capture streaming *Flash* video from websites such as YouTube.

Bundled with *Toast* is a plethora of other programs, some of which are obviously relevant, some of which take gilding the lily to a new level: there's *DiscCatalog Maker RE* for cataloguing disks and creating **Cover Flow** images for them; *CD Spin Doctor* for recording and manipulating audio files from LPs, tapes or web streams, cleaning them up and adding metadata; *Get Backup 2* for file system folder synchronisation; *Disc Cover 2* for making inlays; and the new *Streamer* application, which together with a free iPhone/iPod touch application, lets you watch videos you have on your Mac over the net. Since you have to convert the video anyway, why you wouldn't store it on your iPod, we don't actually know.

> "To justify the £80-£120 price tag, Roxio has thrown in just about everything but the kitchen sink"

If you spend the £40 extra on the *Professional* version of *Toast*, you'll also get *SonicFire Pro* for authoring soundtracks; *SoundSoap* for improving the sound on video and audio files; *FotoMagico* for creating HD slideshows; and *LightZone* for touching up photos.

These applications are all available elsewhere for less, but with *Toast 10* you will make a saving if you were planning on buying two or more of these.

Still solid

There are some useful new features in *Toast 10*: the improved interface is easier to read and the media browser is easier to use, although, as a whole, the interface is harder to use, with a lot of the functionality hidden away.

Other features, particularly those in *Toast 10 Pro*, are largely superfluous. It still offers rock-solid disc burning, and if you want to do some professional authoring *Toast* is the tool to have, but if you already have an older version then stick with it.

Rob Buckley

LABEL PRINTING APP

BeLight Labels & Addresses

£26 The easy way to create and print your own labels and stationery…

CONTACT INFO

Developer BeLight Software
www.belightsoft.com
Latest price on TechRadar
www.techradar.com/528060

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

Mac OS X 14.4 or later

FOR AND AGAINST

- ⊕ Extremely versatile
- ⊕ Comprehensive design tools
- ⊕ Reasonably easy to use
- ⊕ Thorough range of templates
- ⊖ Font use a little awkward
- ⊖ *Retail Edition* adds little of use

VERDICT

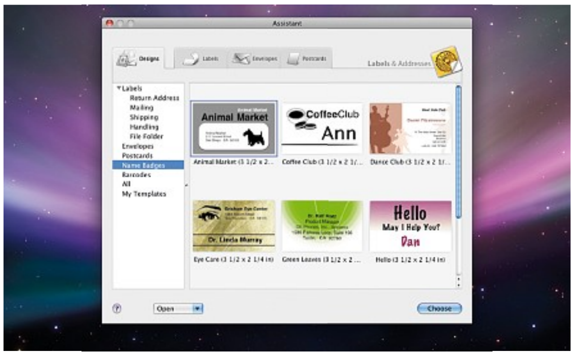
★★★★☆

"A superb little app that will prove very useful for those who manage mailing lists."

Formerly known as *Mail Factory*, the new *Labels & Addresses* is a one-stop solution for creating and printing labels, envelopes and even name badges. You get a wealth of predefined templates, covering labels for mailing, shipping, return addresses, handling and file folders. You can print envelopes, postcards, name badges and postal barcodes to facilitate automatic sorting (UK, US and Canadian only). You can also create your own designs, getting pictures from your Mac, *iPhoto* or an integrated web search.

When it comes to printing labels, envelopes and cards, designs for manufacturers like Avery, Xerox, Brother, DYMO, Printec, Seiko, A-One and more mean you can print on pre-cut label sheets. Various sizes of postcard and envelope are offered. You'd struggle to find a size that isn't covered, but you can create your own templates if you need to. Names and addresses can be added manually or imported from *Address Book*, MS *Excel*, MS *Entourage*, *Now Contact*, *FileMaker*, *vCards* or tab-delimited text files.

Although not instantly intuitive, *Labels & Addresses* is as straightforward as you could hope for, given its feature range. Creating your own designs isn't tricky, although its font management could be better. Not that it's terrible, but one or two tasks are a little more awkward than they need to be.


Assistant
Designs
Labels
Envelopes
Postcards
Labels & Addresses
Labels
Return Address
Mailing
Shipping
Handling
File Folder
Envelopes
Postcards
Name Badges
Barcodes
All
My Templates
Animal Market
CoffeeClub
Ann
Dr. Linda Murray
Hello
May I Help You?
Dan
Animal Market (3 1/2 x 2…
Coffee Club (3 1/2 x 2 1/…
Dance Club (3 1/2 x 2 1/…
Eye Care (3 1/2 x 2 1/4 in)
Green Leaves (3 1/2 x 2 …
Hello (3 1/2 x 2 1/4 in)
Open
Choose

Labels & Addresses gives you an impressive array of options to create labels, envelops and badges.

Two options are offered. The *Standard Edition* has 1,000 clip art images, while the *Retail Edition* costs an extra $10 (£7) but gives you 24,000 images and 50 bitstream fonts.

Labels & Addresses is a superb package. Its configurability, feature-set and versatility are beyond reproach, and it's a reasonable price, too. With a few minor tweaks to the editing interface it would be perfect, but as it stands, it's still very, very good.

Ian Osborne

LEOPARD MAIL TEMPLATES

equinux Stationery Pack 2

€40 (£37) Exciting new designs for your emails, but are they value for money?

CONTACT INFO

Developer equinux
www.equinux.com
Latest price on TechRadar
www.techradar.com/528072

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

PowerPC G4 or higher, Mac OS X 10.5, Apple Mail, CD-ROM drive, internet connection

FOR AND AGAINST

- ⊕ Lots for your money
- ⊕ Interesting and functional designs
- ⊕ Easy to use
- ⊖ Exaggerated quantity
- ⊖ Nothing outstanding here
- ⊖ Awkward installation

VERDICT

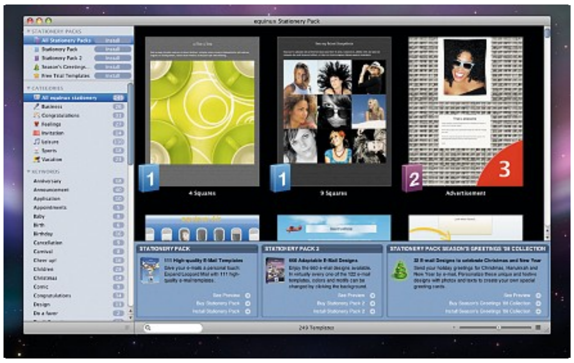
★★½☆☆

"A good enough package that will appeal to those who like Leopard Mail's stationery."

With Leopard, Apple introduced a new feature for *Mail* that enables you to write your emails on personalised stationery. Just select one of the professionally produced HTML templates and add your own message and pictures. equinux *Stationery Pack 2* beefs up this range of templates, offering new designs in Business, Invitations, Leisure, Feelings, Congratulations, Sports and Vacation categories.

After a tedious installation process, the new templates are accessed in exactly the same way as those bundled with Leopard's *Mail* app. We're promised 660 designs, but most are variations on a theme, with new colour schemes and minor detail changes, but the same basic layout. There are actually just over 120 *unique* designs. Quality-wise, they're on a par with the ones Apple gave us with *Mail*. Easy on the eye and entirely functional.

Just like Apple's pre-installed templates, putting an email together using a *Stationery Pack 2* design is a simple affair. Just highlight and write over the default text with your message, and drag-and-drop pictures from *Finder* or the *iPhoto* browser onto any picture boxes that may be on offer. You can enlarge or reduce a picture using a slider, then reposition it by dragging it within the picture box. The templates use standard HTML that can be read by most email programs, on Macs and PCs.


equinux Stationery Pack
STATIONERY PACKS
All Stationery Packs
Stationery Pack
Stationery Pack 2
Season's Greetings…
Free Trial Templates
Install
CATEGORIES
All equinux stationery
Business
Congratulations
Feelings
Invitation
Leisure
Sports
Vacation
KEYWORDS
Anniversary
Announcement
Application
Appointments
Baby
Birth
Birthday
Cancellation
Carnival
Cheer up!
Children
Christmas
Comic
Congratulations
Design
Do a favor
1
4 Squares
1
9 Squares
2
3
Advertisement
STATIONERY PACK
STATIONERY PACK 2
STATIONERY PACK SEASON'S GREETINGS '08 COLLECTION
See Preview
Buy Stationery Pack
Install Stationery Pack
Buy Stationery Pack 2
Install Stationery Pack 2
Buy Season's Greetings '08 Collection
Install Season's Greetings '08 Collection
249 Templates

Enhancing an email using the templates in *Stationery Pack 2* is easy…

Even with the exaggeration regarding the number of designs, you're still getting a lot for your money here. But at just under £30 it's hardly a give-away. And how often do you use *Mail*'s stationery feature anyway? If you use it a lot and are bored with it, you might find this worth it.

Because *Stationery Pack 2* uses the stationery feature in Leopard's *Mail* app, it won't work on older systems such as Tiger or Panther.

Ian Osborne

VIRUS PROTECTION SOFTWARE

PC Tools iAntiVirus

£FREE A free and easy way to keep your Mac protected from potential virus threats and malware

CONTACT INFO

Developer PC Tools
www.pctools.com
Latest price on TechRadar
www.techradar.com/528084

SYSTEM REQUIREMENT

An Intel-based Mac, Mac OS X 10.5 or later, at least 20MB of free hard disk space.

FOR AND AGAINST

- ⊕ Small footprint
- ⊕ Free for home and office users
- ⊕ Runs unobtrusively in the background
- ⊕ Easy to install and use
- ⊖ Intel and Leopard only
- ⊖ Doesn't stop non-Mac malware

VERDICT

★★★½☆

"It addresses a problem that's more potential than imminent, but it does so very well."

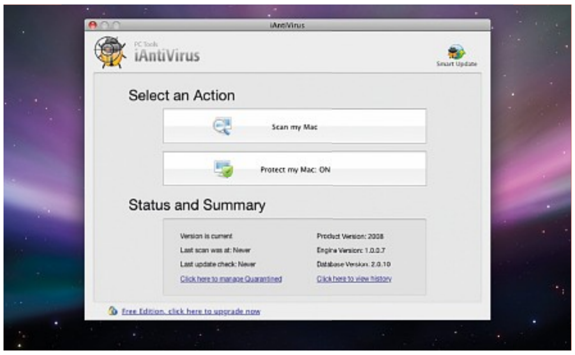
Mac OS X malware is currently very thin on the ground, but a couple of in-the-wild Trojans have recently appeared. How long can it be before an OS X virus is released? Perhaps it's time to install some security software just in case.

PC Tools' *iAntiVirus* is a good place to start. Designed with ease of use in mind, it boasts a straightforward interface and is easy to install. On opening the app, you can scan your Mac for malware that's already present. This scan is not exactly packed with options, offering a **Quick Scan**, which only looks at areas where malware is most likely to lurk, **Normal Scan** for a system-wide check, and a **Custom Scan** that lets you look at specific files and folders. Configurability is traded for simplicity.

The application runs in the background, checking for new infections on the fly, against a database of known threats that's regularly and automatically updated. It happily detected a Trojan we threw its way and quarantined the file inspection. The free version for home and home office users is unrestricted, with the paid-for upgrade path adding telephone support only. Unfortunately, it's Intel- and Leopard-only, so PPC users and those still using an older version of OS X are out of luck.

As it's dedicated to stopping Mac malware, *iAntiVirus* doesn't include Windows viruses in its database. This will come as both a blessing and a curse. Positively, it facilitates a very small footprint, occupying a mere 11.2MB of hard-drive space and using minimal system resources while running in the background, but it also means a Mac user could still pass a virus to Windows users via an infected file. Consequently, *iAntiVirus* is not particularly recommended for users who share a lot of material with PCs, but for your home Mac, it's an excellent security solution.

Ian Osborne



Version is current
Last scan was at: Never
Last update check: Never
Product Version: 2008
Engine Version: 1.0.0.7
Database Version: 2.0.10

On launching, you can run a malware check as well as opt for real-time protection.

MAC SECURITY SOFTWARE APPLICATION

SecureMac MacScan 2.6

£23 A thorough way of keeping spyware at bay from your Mac

CONTACT INFO

Developer SecureMac
www.securemac.com
Latest price on TechRadar
www.techradar.com/528099

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

Intel or PPC Mac, Mac OS X 10.2.8 or above, internet connection for updates

FOR AND AGAINST

- ⊕ Easy to use
- ⊕ Comprehensive spyware protection
- ⊕ Scheduled scans
- ⊕ Works on wide range of Macs
- ⊖ No always-on option
- ⊖ Rescans unchanged data

VERDICT

★★★☆☆

"Not perfect, but definitely worth your investment."

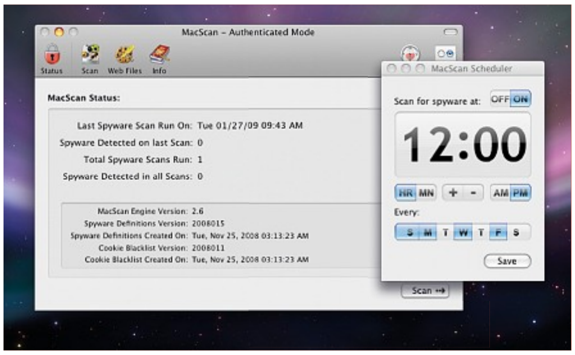
Launched at this year's Macworld, SecureMac's *MacScan 2.6* is designed to 'detect, isolate and remove spyware from your system'. It won't protect you from viruses, but it will target malicious software such as keystroke loggers, Trojans and so-called 'backdoors' that allow hackers to gain access to your computer. It also removes blacklisted cookies without touching legitimate items storing your passwords and user names. To date, more than 8,000 rogue cookies are listed in *MacScan*'s database, and it even detects OS 9 threats for those running **Classic Mode** under OS X.

Options include a **Quick Scan** of your **Home** folder, a **Full Scan** checking every file on your start-up disc or a **Custom Scan** specifying files, folders or drives. You can also clear your browser of its cookies, history, downloaded files list and cache files with a single click.

MacScan doesn't run in the background as an 'always-on' application, but as well as launching manually, you can schedule it to run at a time of your choosing. It's best to leave your Mac on overnight at least once a week and schedule a **Full Scan** (which can take a while). It detected a Trojan we deliberately put on our machine perfectly.

SecureMac should be saluted for keeping the system requirements low here. Unlike *iAntiVirus* reviewed above, *MacScan* runs on Intel and PowerPC-based Macs and on any version of OS X after 10.2.8. It's easy to use, too, and at £23 with no additional subscriptions to buy, it's reasonably priced. Less welcome are the absence of a background mode providing real-time protection when you need it, and the lack of a **Full Scan** option that reads all drives instead of just the boot. Yet overall, *MacScan* is a great defence against the Mac's significant malware threat.

Ian Osborne



MacScan Status:
Last Spyware Scan Run On: Tue 01/27/09 09:43 AM
Spyware Detected on last Scan: 0
Total Spyware Scans Run: 1
Spyware Detected in all Scans: 0
MacScan Engine Version: 2.6
Spyware Definitions Version: 2008015
Spyware Definitions Created On: Tue, Nov 25, 2008 03:13:23 AM
Cookie Blacklist Version: 2008011
Cookie Blacklist Created On: Tue, Nov 25, 2008 03:13:23 AM
Scan for spyware at: 12:00
Every:

We're not quite sure why the *Scheduler* is a separate application.

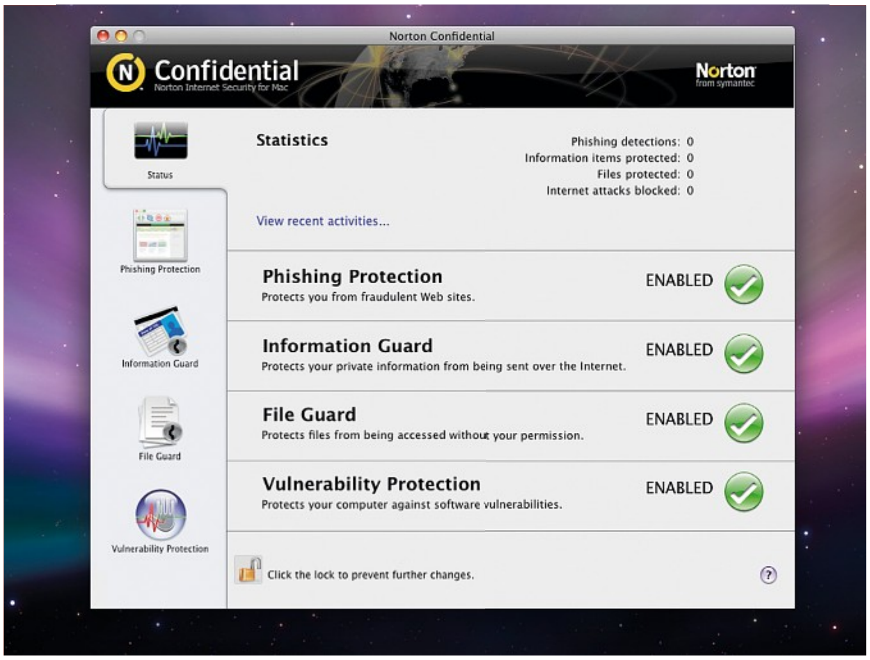
INTERNET SECURITY SOFTWARE SUITE

Norton Internet Security 4.0 for Mac

£50 Symantec's latest offering for the Mac has been five years in development – is it worth the wait?

Never before has online security been such a hot topic for the Mac fraternity, with a couple of Trojans (downloads that look inviting but that are, in fact, disguised malware) and a potential exploit for *QuickTime* popping up recently. Also more of us exchange files – which might potentially include malware and even the most curmudgeonly will concede the need for protection against viruses.

So, if we need defending against viruses, we might need third-party protection against phishing, identity theft, and other such woes. Hence, the release of *Norton Internet Security (NIS)* 4.0 for Mac.



Norton Confidential

Confidential

Norton Internet Security for Mac

Norton from symantec

Status | Phishing Protection | Information Guard | File Guard | Vulnerability Protection

Statistics

Phishing detections: 0
Information items protected: 0
Files protected: 0
Internet attacks blocked: 0

View recent activities...

Phishing Protection — ENABLED
Protects you from fraudulent Web sites.

Information Guard — ENABLED
Protects your private information from being sent over the Internet.

File Guard — ENABLED
Protects files from being accessed without your permission.

Vulnerability Protection — ENABLED
Protects your computer against software vulnerabilities.

Click the lock to prevent further changes.

You could install an anti-phishing toolbar if you wanted to, but be aware that both *Safari* and *Firefox* already include similar protection.

Long time coming

This version of *Norton's* online security suite has come more than five years after *NIS 3.0*. Why the delay? Symantec says that the release of *Norton Confidential* – the anti-phishing element of *NIS* – and the updating of both *Norton Firewall* and *Norton Antivirus* (to take account of Leopard) kept them preoccupied for much of that time. Now, they say, 'it is time to integrate these three fundamental protections into *Norton Internet Security* for our Mac users'.

Once you've installed *NIS* and restarted your Mac, the **NIS Setup Assistant** will take you through each function of the software suite so that you can configure it to your liking. Symantec strongly recommends that you turn off Mac OS X's firewall (System Preferences > Security > Firewall), in order to avoid clashes with *Norton Firewall*.

So, how does *Norton Internet Security* stack up against other third-party internet security products – or, for that matter, a simple antivirus package plus Mac OS X's built-in protection? We were pleasantly surprised. On the evidence of our previous acquaintance with both Mac and Windows versions of *NIS* we expected to find that our test systems (a 2.4GHz Intel iMac and a 2.16GHz MacBook) slowed down to a crawl. Thankfully, this wasn't the case here. We even made checks using **Activity Monitor**, and found that nothing was putting strain on either Mac. So far, so good.

When it comes to detecting viruses, *Norton Antivirus (NAV) 11* is incorporated into *NIS* to handle the task and it does it well. It detected our selection of nasties when presented with them in emails or on a USB flash drive. Incidentally, you can also prevent *NAV* from scanning certain locations.

Norton Confidential also does a good job, placing a banner in *Safari* notifying the user that a website isn't an impostor. However, the latest versions of *Safari* and *Firefox* incorporate a similar feature, so we wonder at paying extra for *Norton Internet Security* over *Norton AntiVirus*.

Alternatives

Overall, Symantec's experience of producing utilities for the corporate sector shines through in *Norton Internet Security 4.0 for Mac's* slick interface. It seems, the company has noted they could be heavy on system resources, though we'd be intrigued to learn how much this was down to testing the software on dual-core Intel Macs. However, we're still left with the feeling that in buying *NIS 4.0* you'd be paying to address the wrong issues: after all, Mac OS X already has a decent software firewall (and if you have an Ethernet router you'll most likely have a hardware firewall). In addition, there's antivirus software available for free (see the *iAntiVirus* review opposite). If you're using Windows under *Boot Camp* or in a virtualisation environment such as *Parallels Desktop* or *VMWare Fusion*, you can obtain free Windows antivirus protection from AVG at **http://free.avg.com**. Ultimately though unless you've got an old PowerPC Mac, as good as *NIS 4.0 for Mac* is, we really couldn't justify the expense when there are free solutions for the home user that do just as good a job.

Trevor Middleton

> "The latest versions of Safari and Firefox incorporate a similar feature, so we wonder at paying extra…"

CONTACT INFO

Developer Symantec
www.symantec.com
Latest price on TechRadar
www.techradar.com/528141

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

PowerPC or Intel Mac, 256MB RAM (512MB recommended), Mac OS X 10.4.11 or higher (includes 10.5.x support), 150MB hard disk space, internet connection required for *LiveUpdate*, CD-ROM/DVD-ROM drive

FOR AND AGAINST

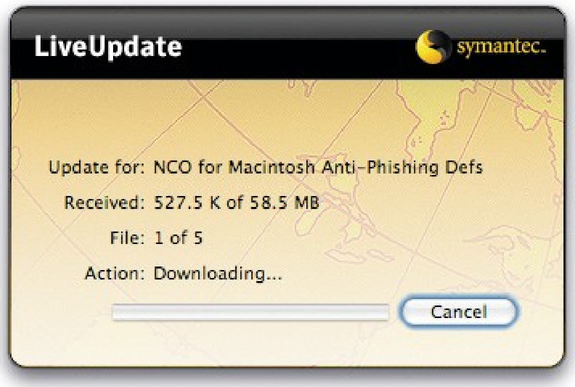
- + Clean, uncluttered interface
- + Easy on system resources
- + Regular updates
- – Some functions available in OS X
- – Free antivirus products available
- – Some settings are difficult to find

VERDICT

★★★★☆

"It does its job well, but there are free alternatives available."

As soon as you've installed *Norton Internet Security* you'll be prompted to download the latest updates.



LiveUpdate

symantec.

Update for: NCO for Macintosh Anti-Phishing Defs
Received: 527.5 K of 58.5 MB
File: 1 of 5
Action: Downloading...

SCRAPBOOK FOR SCREEN AND WEB CAPTURES

Realmac Software LittleSnapper

£29 Do we really need another screen capture program?

CONTACT INFO

Developer RealMac Software
www.realmacsoftware.com
Latest price on TechRadar
www.techradar.com/528209

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

Mac OS X 10.5 Leopard

FOR AND AGAINST

- + Apple-like interface
- + Useful and convenient tools
- + Will appeal to designers
- – It's very expensive
- – Features duplicated by free apps
- – Needs time to mature

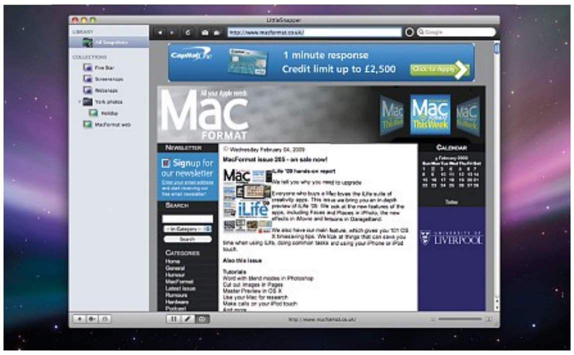
VERDICT

★★★☆☆

"A promising first release but doesn't currently offer value for money."

Do you want to do more with your screen captures than OS X allows? If so, this app from the folk who gave us *RapidWeaver* could be for you.

LittleSnapper is a capture tool and scrapbook for images, put together with graphic designers and web builders in mind. Boasting an agreeably *iLife*-inspired interface, you can capture complete screens, user-defined areas and entire web pages, as opposed to just snapping the section you can see without scrolling up or down. Best of all, it captures web archives as well as a flat image. **Element snapping** lets you box out specific sections of a web page without dragging crosshairs, and you can tag, rate and describe your snaps, organise them into groups and folders or create on-the-fly smart albums, which group together snaps answering user-defined criteria. Your grabs can be manipulated, edited and annotated, and annotations produced in *LittleSnapper* are non-destructive (you can add and delete them at will without damaging the original file). There's a blur tool to conceal information like addresses or passwords, and you can upload from *LittleSnapper* to Flickr, FTP or its own *QuickSnapper* service.



You can snap an entire website from *LittleSnapper's* own browser.

There are several features we'd like to see: Multiple window grabs, allowing you to snap a window (for example) and a pop-up or pull-down menu within would be good. Small workgroups could also benefit from shared image collections, maybe over *Bonjour*. And quite a few of *LittleSnapper's* features are available in freeware applications. You can capture web pages in *Paparazzi*, organise images in *iPhoto*, and capture, annotate and publish with *Skitch* (**www.skitch.com**). What's here is good, but considering it costs £29 for a single licence and £95 for five, it needs to do more.

Ian Osborne

HTML AND TEXT EDITOR

Bare Bones Software BBEdit 9.1

£85 The Mac's veteran text editor returns with bug fixes and new features

CONTACT INFO

Developer Bare Bones Software
www.barebones.com
Latest price on TechRadar
www.techradar.com/469263

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

Mac OS X 10.4+

FOR AND AGAINST

- + Unsurpassed search/find and replace
- + Projects are useful
- + Fast and stable
- + Improved auto-complete
- – Updated FTP disappoints
- – Needs an interface overhaul

VERDICT

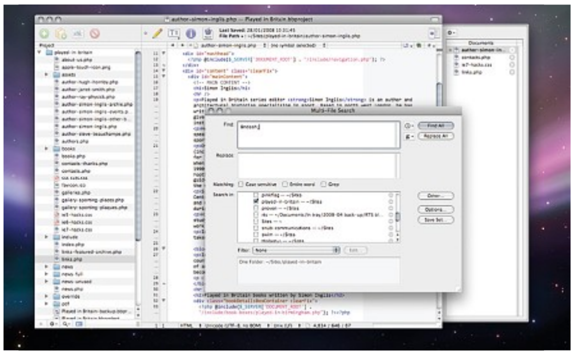
★★★★☆

"The interface is becoming problematic, but BBEdit is still robust, if slightly dated."

The boast Bare Bones makes about its text-editing software is that it doesn't suck. For the most part, we agree. *BBEdit* is like a friend that's seen us through thick and thin, assisting with various text-based activities over the years, including coding, web design, text editing and advanced find and replace.

Version 9 wasn't a radical departure, continuing the slow evolution that *BBEdit's* seen in recent years. Having worked with the updated features for a number of months, some have risen in our estimation. **Projects**, which enables you to dump folders in *BBEdit's* sidebar and open items within via a single click, is handy; along with *BBEdit's* drawer, they speed up web design and programming tasks, and ensure dozens of windows don't litter the screen. However, the industry-leading (and now modal – treating dialogs as standard windows) find-and-replace remains the star of the show.

The latest update, *9.1*, smoothes out some wrinkles, speeding up *BBEdit's* autocomplete (which, sadly, does suck for CSS), throws in the decent anti-aliased code-editing font Consolas Regular, and improves the application's FTP capabilities somewhat. FTP within *BBEdit* is now tolerable, if not entirely intuitive, but we feel a combination of *Transmit* and *BBEdit* works better.



BBEdit's find and replace and projects are impressive, but the interface is confused and cluttered.

However, the one thing *BBEdit* desperately needs hasn't yet appeared, and that's an interface overhaul. When an application needs a search within its preferences, something's wrong. And although we like *BBEdit's* **Projects**, the interface – especially when FTP browsers are added to the mix – pales in comparison with the likes of the super-efficient, streamlined *Coda*. So, *BBEdit* doesn't suck (it's still great for programmers and HTML) but its interface often comes dangerously close to doing so.

Craig Grannell

COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEM AND DISK UTILITY

Micromat TechTool Pro 5

Mac FORMAT Choice ★★★★★

£98 Micromat serves up a worthwhile upgrade to one of the oldest tools for your Mac

The first version of *TechTool Pro* was released more than 15 years ago, undeniably making it the grandfather of commercial Mac utilities. It was out long before its modern competitors, *DiskWarrior* from Alsoft and *Drive Genius* by ProSoft, appeared on the scene.

Ironically, timeliness has never been Micromat's strong suit. *TechTool Pro 4* was the first release to support Mac OS X and emerged almost three years after Mac OS X debuted.

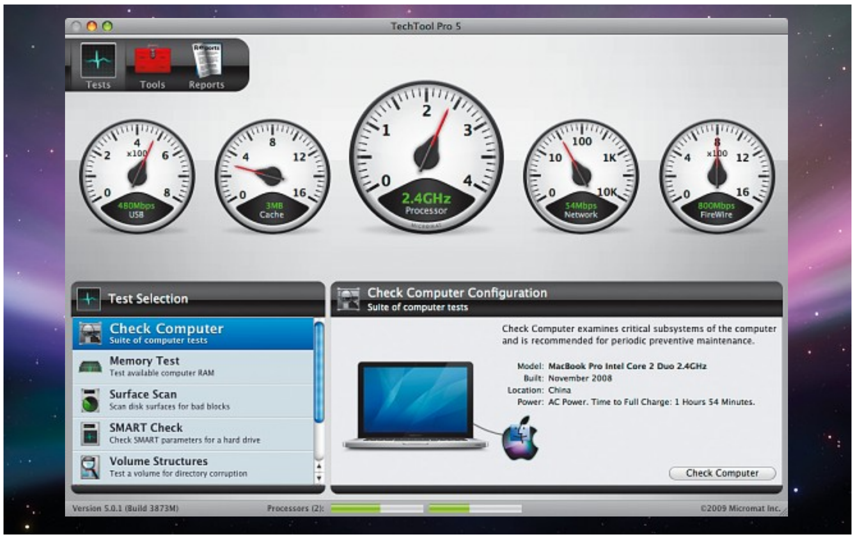
Five years and numerous updates to version 4 later, Micromat has taken the wraps off *TechTool Pro 5*, a major upgrade free of any new standout features but still filled to the brim with useful tools.

TechTool Pro 5 packs more features than its competitors and is the only utility that expands beyond the realm of disk drives, although that is where its focus rightly remains.

The software tests RAM, video controllers, processors, and more. We've never seen a case where *TechTool Pro 5* was able to diagnose a problem that Apple's free *Hardware Test* couldn't, but the convenience of having those tests on the same DVD as other unique tools should not be dismissed.

TechTool Pro's interface has been completely redone in version 5 but not entirely for the better. The application window has grown in size, yet most of that space is occupied by largely meaningless graphics, and actual tests and tools are contained in much smaller lists that you are required to scroll through.

> "It packs more features than its competitors and expands beyond the realm of disk drives"



Test Selection

- Check Computer – Suite of computer tests
- Memory Test – Test available computer RAM
- Surface Scan – Scan disk surfaces for bad blocks
- SMART Check – Check SMART parameters for a hard drive
- Volume Structures – Test a volume for directory corruption

Check Computer Configuration
Suite of computer tests

Check Computer examines critical subsystems of the computer and is recommended for periodic preventive maintenance.

Model: MacBook Pro Intel Core 2 Duo 2.4GHz
Built: November 2008
Location: China
Power: AC Power. Time to Full Charge: 1 Hours 54 Minutes.

Check Computer

Version 5.0.1 (Build 3873M) Processors (2): ©2009 Micromat Inc.

The new interface of TechTool Pro is loaded with slick eye candy, but note that not all of it is particularly useful.

Drive Repair

Repairing hard drives remains *TechTool Pro's* primary raison-d'être, and in that regard, the new version functioned without a hitch in our tests, performing both preventive maintenance and corrective measures successfully.

A battery of drive tests are at your fingertips, from scanning for bad blocks on a drive to testing volume and file structures. For first aid, *TechTool Pro's* **Volume Rebuild** feature is the logical first step, which largely duplicates the primary (and some might say only) feature of the equally-priced *DiskWarrior*. *TechTool Pro 5* does have one advantage here: its results are much more layman-friendly, detailing only if the changes it is about to make are favourable or not prior to executing the directory replacement.

In the event a drive is damaged beyond all repair, you can try the **Data Recovery** feature, which is enhanced by the **TechTool Protection System Preference** that automatically backs up directory structure info.

TechTool Protection also continuously monitors the free space on volumes connected to your Mac and their S.M.A.R.T. status, and can be configured to email you if a drive is getting full or starting to fail.

Caveat Emptor

TechTool Pro can also defragment drives and optimise free space, designed to maximise the performance and efficiency of the data stored on the drive. Both tasks are extremely time intensive, however, and require a few hours to complete depending on the capacity and speed of the drive.

Across a range of systems, *TechTool Pro 5* proved reliable at performing both optimisations, but on modern hardware it was admittedly difficult to discern any real-world performance improvement afterwards.

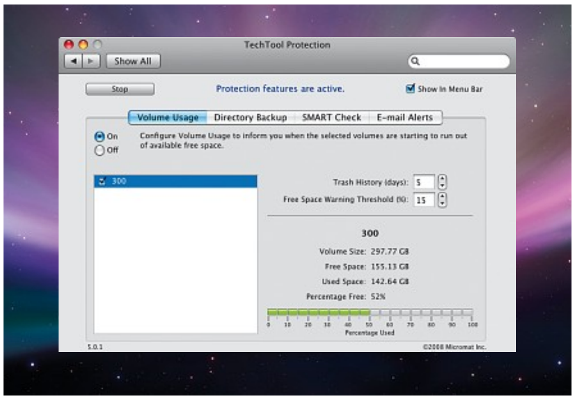
Since most of *TechTool Pro's* tools cannot be run on the same drive that is hosting the the application or running Mac OS X, *TechTool Pro* can create an eDrive partition on an existing drive. This will copy over your Mac OS X installation along with a copy of *TechTool Pro*, but it doesn't require you to reformat your drive to do so.

Micromat has a habit of taking its time updating the *TechTool Pro 5* DVD (to support new Macs) and then charging you for it. If your organisation finds itself purchasing the latest Apple hardware, don't overlook this tax. Even this major new release won't yet boot the unibody MacBooks that were released ages ago.

Despite its downsides, *TechTool Pro 5* remains a comprehensive utility. Few of its features are completely unique, but as a package it represents a smart investment.

Misha Sakellaropoulo

TechTool will actively monitor the free space and health of your drives.



Protection features are active.

☑ Show In Menu Bar

● On
○ Off

Configure Volume Usage to inform you when the selected volumes are starting to run out of available free space.

☑ 300

Trash History (days): 5
Free Space Warning Threshold (%): 15

300
Volume Size: 297.77 GB
Free Space: 155.13 GB
Used Space: 142.64 GB
Percentage Free: 52%

5.0.1 ©2008 Micromat Inc.

CONTACT INFO

Developer Micromat
www.micromat.com
Latest price on TechRadar
www.techradar.com/528167

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

PowerPC G4, G5, or Intel Mac, 512MB RAM
Mac OS X 10.4.9 or greater, DVD-ROM drive, Quartz Extreme graphics support

FOR AND AGAINST

- ⊕ Comprehensive assortment of tools
- ⊕ Reliable performance
- ⊕ Proactive alerts and monitoring
- ⊖ Won't boot October 08 MacBooks
- ⊖ Expensive DVD update policy
- ⊖ Some built-in/free utilities are useless

VERDICT

★★★★★

"If your budget can only accommodate one commercial utility, make it TechTool Pro 5."

FILE MANAGER

Cocoatech Path Finder 5.0.3

$40 (£27) This Finder replacement gets a lick of paint and some new features

CONTACT INFO

Developer Cocoatech
http://cocoatech.com/
Latest price on TechRadar
www.techradar.com/528156

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

Mac OS X 10.5+

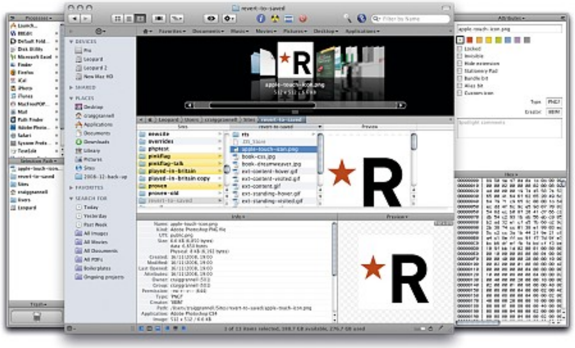
FOR AND AGAINST

- + New dual-pane view
- + Improved user interface
- + Better system integration
- + Massively customisable
- − Wealth of options can overwhelm
- − Some stability and speed issues

VERDICT

★★★★½

"A near-perfect antidote if you're frustrated with *Finder's* lack of flexibility and power."



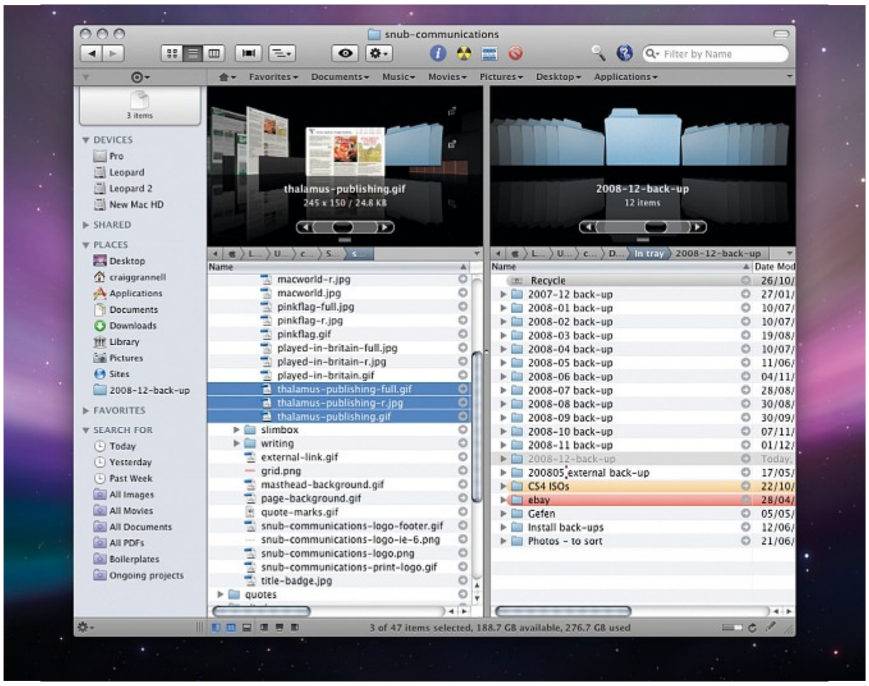
Path Finder's main benefit over *Finder* is the level of customisation it offers.

Mac users love to hate *Finder* – and with good reason. Despite improving under Leopard, it's still limited. Cocoatech's *Path Finder* is what we'd expect to see from Apple if it decided to create 'Finder Pro'.

Path Finder 5 offers a number of new features, but it's the new interface that initially grabs the attention. Cocoatech's application sometimes used to feel like it had been battered by an ugly stick, but now finally looks like a true Leopard application. In fact, in its most basic form, little of *Path Finder's* power is betrayed, and it's almost the spitting image of *Finder*, even including a lookalike sidebar. Usefully, said sidebar's *Places* section is shared with *Finder's* – remove or add an item from one and the change is reflected in the other. Oddly, this isn't the case with **Search for**, which stubbornly refuses to allow items to be removed or rearranged in *Path Finder*.

A more flexible Finder

On using and experimenting with *Path Finder*, its advantages over *Finder* soon become clear. Some are fairly minor – for example, the way *Cover Flow* is independent of other views, enabling you to combine it with **Icon** or **Column** view. And then there are the tweaks you can make to each view's appearance. Some are purely for aesthetic purposes: font sizes, grid lines, and so on. Others are practical, such as changing the list sort order to place folders above files.



Name
macworld-r.jpg
macworld.jpg
pinkflag-full.jpg
pinkflag-r.jpg
pinkflag.gif
played-in-britain-full.jpg
played-in-britain-r.jpg
played-in-britain.gif
thalamus-publishing-full.gif
thalamus-publishing-r.jpg
thalamus-publishing.gif
slimbox
writing
external-link.gif
grid.png
masthead-background.gif
page-background.gif
quote-marks.gif
snub-communications-logo-footer.gif
snub-communications-logo-ie-6.png
snub-communications-logo.png
snub-communications-print-logo.gif
title-badge.jpg
quotes

Name	Date Mod
Recycle	26/10/
2007-12 back-up	27/01/
2008-01 back-up	10/07/
2008-02 back-up	10/07/
2008-03 back-up	19/08/
2008-04 back-up	10/07/
2008-05 back-up	11/06/
2008-06 back-up	04/11/
2008-07 back-up	28/08/
2008-08 back-up	30/08/
2008-09 back-up	30/09/
2008-10 back-up	07/11/
2008-11 back-up	01/12/
2008-12-back-up	Today,
200805 external back-up	17/05/
CS4 ISOs	22/10/
ebay	28/04/
Gefen	05/05/
Install back-ups	12/06/
Photos – to sort	21/06/

Path Finder's dual-pane configuration, combined with the existing drop stack, is great for file management.

Some contrasts are more dramatic, and centre around usability. The Safari-like bookmarks bar and tabs provide a familiar interface for stashing favourite locations and eliminating window clutter. You can also create tab sets – editable workspaces for projects that are then available from the **File** menu or tab bar.

For us, though, it's the new dual-pane file browser that's the real star of *Path Finder 5*. This provides a view common to FTP clients, splitting the window vertically and placing an independent file manager in each half. This is an efficient way to move files around, especially when combined with *Path Finder's* drop stack, which provides a holding pen for multiple files before deciding on their final location.

> "On using and experimenting with Path Finder, its advantages over Finder soon become clear"

The dual-pane interface is accessed via a series of buttons at the foot of a *Path Finder* window, which also open the application's drawers. The bottom drawer houses **Terminal** tabs, but the left- and right-hand ones hold user-selectable modules, which include **Processes**, **Attributes**, **Permissions** and new **Subversion** support. The main window also houses a two-module panel offering **Info** and **Preview**, but set both to **Preview** and you can have dual previews, if you wish.

System integration

Path Finder balances beating *Finder* at its own game (a powerful selection tool, a handy 'size' browser for seeing what items are taking up space, single-click window cloning) with better system integration. There's even an option to make *Path Finder* the default file viewer. This doesn't work flawlessly – some apps insist on invoking *Finder*, but at least when this happens there's a shortcut for revealing the current item in *Path Finder*.

So, *Path Finder 5* is a great new release with few problems. Sure, some might suggest it's over-complex, and it's true that the number of options can overwhelm. You also need to be careful when configuring preferences to avoid unexpected results. However, we did find *Path Finder* a little sluggish and it locked up on us several times. It's these stability and speed issues that stop *Path Finder* achieving a *MacFormat* Choice Award, but it's a close-run thing, and we strongly recommend the application for anyone sick of *Finder's* restrictions and inflexibility.
Craig Grannell

Got an iPhone or a new Mac?
then you need to read these…

Whether you're looking for great advice on buying your first iPhone or you've just switched from PC to Mac we've got it covered.

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www.signanddigitaluk.com

USB 2.0 DESKTOP HARD DRIVE

Western Digital My Book Mac Edition 1TB

£102 A competitive and high-capacity storage solution for those happy with USB

CONTACT INFO

Manufacturer Western Digital
www.wdc.com
Latest price on TechRadar
www.techradar.com/527538

KEY SPECS

Formatted to HFS+, compatible with Time Machine, requires OS X 10.4.11 or above

FOR AND AGAINST

- + Preformatted for Mac OS
- + Agreeably priced
- + Runs almost silently
- + Roomy enclosure
- − USB only
- − No user access to enclosure

VERDICT

★★★★☆

"A very capable budget USB hard drive, which looks good and performs well."

The range of MyBook external hard drives is diverse to the point of confusion. The Mac Edition joins the already-established Essential Edition, Home Edition, Office Edition, Mirror Edition, Passport Edition and Studio Edition. Phew!

In a nutshell, the new Mac Edition is pitched at the budget end of the external hard drive market. It's preformatted for Mac OS and switches on and off with your computer, but it lacks features such as a capacity gauge, automatic backup, FireWire connectivity, remote access and RAID, offered by various other My Book releases.

In our tests, the drive achieved some impressive speeds. Its sequential read speed was almost 29MB/s, with random reads topping 11MB/s. Its write speeds were almost 20MB/s for sequential and 16MB/s for random. This is a capable performance over a USB 2.0 connection. Based around a single 1TB drive, its enclosure is roomy and well ventilated, and it runs almost silently when in use.

The Mac Edition's familiar My Book design would look good sitting next to just about any computer. Although, because it's a sealed plastic unit with no user access, don't expect to remove or replace the drive without breaking the enclosure. It's shock resistant, which should appeal to the clumsy, but we wouldn't recommend putting this particular feature through too rigorous a test. Like other releases in the My Book range, this one is about the same size as a large paperback (16.5x13.5x5.3cm), and if you have a few of them, they line up like a row of books; a veritable virtual library of data.

Although pitched at the value end of the hard drive market, Western Digital My Book Mac Edition 1TB exceeded our expectations. It's quiet, attractive, inexpensive and above all, fast. Just the thing if you're after a high-capacity hard drive and are happy with a USB-only model.

Ian Osborne

The design of the My Book Mac Edition is stylish enough to go with most computers.

DESKTOP HARD DRIVE

Iomega UltraMax Plus 1TB

£186 A stylish and versatile drive built with the Mac user in mind…

CONTACT INFO

Manufacturer Iomega
www.iomega-europe.com
Latest price on TechRadar
www.techradar.com/527592

KEY SPECS

Connect via USB 2.0, FireWire 400/800, eSATA, 1TB of storage delivered from 2x500GB SATA drives

FOR AND AGAINST

- + Extremely stylish
- + Perfect match for desktop Mac
- + Comprehensive connection options
- + Preformatted for Mac OS
- − Expensive
- − Little air circulation

VERDICT

★★★½☆

"An excellent drive, but some users might be better served by a cheaper option."

This new 1TB hard drive from Iomega is clearly designed with the Mac user in mind. Its sleek metal finish, angular curves and perforated vents make it a perfect match for the PowerMac or Mac Pro, and it would also look right at home next to an aluminium iMac. It's preformatted as a Mac OS Extended (Journaled) drive so there's no need to go through the tedious reformatting procedure demanded by some high-capacity drives, unless of course you wish to change the RAID option.

As well as being stylish, the UltraMax Plus 1TB is also versatile. Connection to your Mac is via USB 2.0, FireWire 400/800 or eSATA, if you're lucky enough to have this new ultra-fast option. Connect through USB and you can make use of its three extra USB ports to daisychain your peripherals, and there's one FireWire 400 and two FireWire 800 ports, offering pass-through options here too. You can set your chosen RAID arrangement via a couple of switches on the rear of the unit. Offering RAID 0 off the shelf, you can also opt for Simple (non-RAID), RAID 1 (Mirrored) or JBOD.

Under the default RAID 0 setting, the drive averaged random read-speeds of 9.5MB/s and write-speeds of 15MB/s when connected through USB 2.0, with FireWire 400 offering 10MB/s and 16MB/s, and FireWire800 giving 14MB/s and 22MB/s.

The UltraMax Plus 1TB is extremely versatile.

The casing is well put-together and stays cool during operation, but we'd prefer a bit more room for air to circulate underneath the unit.

The UltraMax Plus 1TB is not the cheapest drive around, but nor is it viciously overpriced. It's true that you can get USB 2.0 drives of this capacity for less than £100 if you keep your eyes peeled, but you get what you pay for. Given the quality of the enclosure and the comprehensive range of connection and RAID options, it's not outrageously priced, but it might be more than you actually need.

Ian Osborne

RAID-LIKE EXTERNAL HARD-DISK ENCLOSURE

Data Robotics Drobo FW800

£407 Data Robotics' mega hard-disk enclosure gets faster. Apparently

When we looked at the first iteration of the Drobo, in *MacFormat* 193, April 2008, we had two main criticisms. It was sluggish and expensive. It's still as expensive – in fact at the time of writing, the cheapest online price from a reputable dealer is £57 more than the first generation – but at least there's the promise of speed, thanks to a meatier processor and the inclusion of FireWire 800 rather than just USB 2.0.

KEY SPECS

Requires SATA or SATA II drives or any specification, no carriers required, Mac OS X 10.4 or later, Windows 2000 or later, dimensions: 15.2x16x27.2cm

But we're getting ahead of ourselves. What actually is it? Basically, it's a big box with space for up to four 3.5-inch SATA hard disks. Put at least two drives into it – yes, that price is just for the enclosure without any actual storage – and it does something quite clever. Your data is managed internally so that even if one drive fails, you don't lose anything. 'That's just RAID,' you might think, but it actually doesn't use any of the RAID standards. And that means that it's much smarter than a dual, triple or however-many disk RAID system. Rather than simply filling up, you can slot in more drives at any time, and the Drobo will remap the data on the existing disks to give you more capacity and keep the same redundancy. The real beauty of the system is you don't have to use identical drives. The Drobo makes as much space as possible available from the disks you add, and when all the bays and disks are full, you can – while it's still on and being accessed – pop out the lowest-capacity disk and slot in a larger one.

It's designed as a drive that mounts as a single volume on your Desktop, but you can make it network-sharable by adding the £200 DroboShare or plugging it into an AirPort Extreme or Time Capsule. A community of developers is creating apps to run directly on the Drobo too, so you can turn it into, say, an *iTunes* server or a BitTorrent client.

All this, however, is also true of the first generation Drobo, but this one should be faster, thanks to better firmware, the addition of FireWire 800 and, most importantly, that faster, smarter processor. The good news: it feels much nippier, and is potentially quick enough to be used as primary storage for less demanding users working with SD video. The bad? It's still not fast enough! It doesn't match the responsiveness of a single low-spec drive, and still falls way short of the speed of a true hardware RAID system. For our money, though, the ability to grow the storage pool organically and relatively cheaply – while guarding against hard disk failure – makes the sacrifice in responsiveness worthwhile. **Christopher Phin**

CONTACT INFO

Manufacturer Data Robotics
www.drobo.com
Latest price on TechRadar
www.techradar.com/527905

FOR AND AGAINST

- ⊕ Easy to use and understand
- ⊕ Expandable
- ⊕ Allows storage to grow cheaply
- ⊕ More responsive than original
- ⊕ Can add apps to extend feature set
- ⊖ We'd like it to be faster and cheaper

VERDICT

★★★★☆

"There's brilliant technology at work here, but it's still pricey and could be faster."

MULTIFUNCTION PRINTER WITH WIFI

Epson Stylus Photo PX800FW

£220 Could this high-end multifunction machine offer a return to form for Epson?

CONTACT INFO

Manufacturer Epson
www.epson.co.uk
Latest price on TechRadar
www.techradar.com/527830

KEY SPECS

Six-colour printing
Print resolution up to 5760 x 1440
Scan resolution 4800 x 4800 dpi

FOR AND AGAINST

- ⊕ Fast printouts
- ⊕ Packed with features
- ⊖ Washed-out colours
- ⊖ Lifeless text
- ⊖ Banding
- ⊖ Only shines on photo paper

VERDICT

★★☆☆☆

"Can't fault it for features, and it's fast, but we have issues with its print quality."

Epson's Stylus Photo PX800FW is a feature-packed multiformat device that can print borderless photos from 10x15cm up to A4 size. It also prints directly from memory cards, preview photos on an 8.9cm LCD viewer, photocopies and faxes in black and white or colour, prints onto a CD or DVD, scans text into docs and connects to your Mac through USB, Ethernet or WiFi. But does it perform any better than Epson's PX700W, which was poorly received in *MacFormat* 202's Group Test?

Unfortunately, our base test, a colour print on standard-quality paper, proves just as problematic. The colours look washed out and lifeless, with the occasional banding line. For a printer that costs more than £200, this is simply unacceptable. It performs much better on Epson's own glossy photo paper, with vivid colours, little banding and near-perfect photo reproduction. But with an all-round, jack-of-all-trades workhorse like the PX800FW, you expect all-round quality.

Its failings are less noticeable when printing text, but comparing results with those offered by other multifunction printers, soon highlights its limitations. Very small point sizes look smudged and indistinct, and even larger print loses its crispness and finesse. Very large or bold text suffers the same problems as the colour printouts, with the washed-out feel taking its toll.

It's a feature-packed beast, but lacking in print quality.

It performs better in timing tests, outputting a 20-page black-and-white text file in two minutes, 50 seconds. Colour and black-and-white copies of a *MacFormat* cover took 25 and 16 seconds respectively, but also looked washed out.

However, the machine is feature-rich and easy to set up to get working. Printing on CDs using the software app is a cinch. Yet this counts for little when its print quality is lacking. Steer clear, unless you do all your colour prints on photo paper.

Ian Osborne

MULTI-USE WIDGET FOR iPOD/iPHONE

Macally PowerLink 3-in-1

£42 This multifunction marvel is a great pal for your iPod or iPhone

CONTACT INFO

Manufacturer Macally
www.macally.com
Latest price on TechRadar
www.techradar.com/527653

KEY SPECS

2GB flash memory
USB 2.0 or 1.1-compatible
Built-in 250mAh lithium polymer battery

FOR AND AGAINST

- ⊕ Very versatile
- ⊕ Convenient for travellers
- ⊕ Ideal emergency solution
- ⊕ Easy to use
- ⊖ A little too expensive
- ⊖ Loose caps easily lost

VERDICT

★★★★☆

"A versatile and convenient tool that would be a must-have if it were a little cheaper."

Now here's an interesting piece of kit. Measuring just 6.5cm long, 2.5cm wide and 1cm deep, the Macally PowerLink 3-in-1 Battery Pack/Data Sync/Flash Drive packs a lot of functionality into its tiny form. With a USB plug at one end and an iPod/iPhone dock connector at the other, it offers an emergency boost courtesy of its rechargeable lithium cell, the means to connect your iPhone or iPod to your computer for syncing or recharging, and lastly a flash drive of 2GB capacity.

As a flash drive, PowerLink is plug and play, appearing on your Mac's Desktop as soon as you plug it in. In benchmark tests it averaged a write speed of almost 3MB per second with read speeds approaching 10MB per second. Not the fastest in town, but somewhere in the middle, which is entirely acceptable.

PowerLink also functions as an emergency battery booster for your iPhone. By plugging it into your phone's dock connector, you can give yourself an extra 25 minutes talktime. It doesn't charge the iPhone's battery, but supplies the extra juice direct from the PowerLink unit. It can bring a drained iPod back from the dead, too, though we wouldn't recommend using it to extend your music or video time. It's ideal for retrieving a contact or checking a calendar entry in an emergency, though. If your battery is completely flat it can take a few minutes for the PowerLink to switch it on, so be patient. The PowerLink unit fully charges in around three hours, either through your computer's USB port or a dedicated USB power supply.

Use this nifty device to get you and your iPhone or iPod out of trouble.

Finally, you can use the gadget to connect your iPod or iPhone to your computer for syncing and charging, just as you would with a USB cable. Macally PowerLink 3-in-1 is a versatile device with a lot to offer the iPhone user, although it's not really worth splashing out on if you only have an iPod. At £42 it's a little expensive too, so keep your eye out for a price drop.

Ian Osborne

All your Apple needs
Mac FORMAT This Week
REVO
iPod Mode
Connected
ibLik
RADIO STATION
DAB+WIFI INTERNET RADIO

DAB, FM AND INTERNET RADIO WITH iPOD DOCK

Revo iBLIK RadioStation

£169 A DAB and internet radio that's versatile and fun to use…

Described as 'the ultimate one-box digital radio', the Revo iBLIK RadioStation combines an FM tuner, DAB digital radio, internet streaming broadcasts over Ethernet or WiFi, an iPod dock and a port for connecting any audio device with a headphone socket. It also has an alarm and you can stream music from your *iTunes* library. So no shortage of features, but how do they shape up?

iBLIK RadioStation is easy to set up and operate. Navigating your way through its well-organised menu system is never a chore, and even connecting to the internet through WiFi is a simple task.

KEY SPECS

DAB and DAB+ radio, WiFi and LAN connectivity, made for iPod, FM with RDS, digital alarm clock, ten station presets, remote control, headphone and RCA sockets

Internet radio gives access to more than 11,000 stations, with more added all the time. Exploring them is simplicity itself, though navigating to a specific station can be time consuming. Thankfully, you can use the online Frontier Internet Radio Portal to store a favourites list, and there are ten presets each for internet, DAB and FM stations. RadioStation is compatible with DAB+, the next-gen DAB system, and if you can't tune in digitally, scan for an FM station with the aerial.

The iPod dock is a new addition for the iBLIK, and uses Apple's patented docking system where you slot in the caddy that fits your iPod classic (fourth generation or later), nano, mini, shuffle (second gen or later) or touch. Although not listed on the packaging, it's also compatible with the iPhone in **Airplane Mode.** Audio streamed from the iPod is organised into playlists, albums, and artists, just like when you play it natively from your digital audio player. As well as a dock, there's also an MPort – a 3.5mm socket through which you can connect any audio player offering a headphone port.

Stream music from your Mac by installing Elgato Systems' *EyeConnect* and access your *iTunes* library using the Universal Plug 'n' Play (UPnP) standard.

Some might criticise the fact that iBLIK RadioStation is mono out of the box, but it still offers a great sound, with plenty of volume and bass. You can use the phono sockets to add your own stereo speakers or integrate it into your existing sound system.

The lack of button differentiation on the hand controller makes it difficult to operate in the dark, and an AM tuner wouldn't have hurt…

But these are minor moans. With other manufacturers piling on the features at the expense of usability, it's great to see care given to an interface that's easy to use. This is arguably the best multi-function digital radio in its price class.

Ian Osborne

CONTACT INFO

Manufacturer Revo
www.revo.co.uk
Latest price on TechRadar
www.techradar.com/527917

FOR AND AGAINST

- + Very easy to use
- + Versatile connectivity
- + Streams music from *iTunes*
- + Intelligent menu system
- – Hard to use controller in the dark
- – No AM tuner

VERDICT

★★★★½

"Comprehensive features and an intuitive interface make Revo's iBLIK RadioStation a worthy winner."

computer arts

Graduate Showcase 2009

CALL FOR ENTRIES

The *Computer Arts* Graduate Showcase 2009 is officially accepting entries – the hunt for the world's top graduating creative talent has begun. The competition is open to creative undergraduates and graduates in their final year of study, anywhere in the world, and the categories are: **Illustration, Graphic Design, 3D Design, Web and Interactive Media, Animation, and Video and Broadcast Design**. We've now confirmed all of the judges – so for your chance to get your work in front of some of the world's leading creatives, make sure you enter by the deadline of **18 May 2009**! Find more details at the address below…

Enter online at
www.computerarts.co.uk/graduateshowcase2009

Terms and conditions apply. See website above for full details.

The Judges

Get your work seen by the world's top creatives by entering the Graduate Showcase 2009

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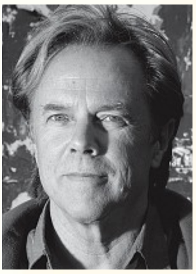
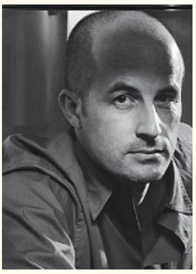
Jasper Goodall

Graphic Design



David Carson

3D Design



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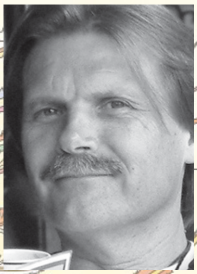

Mike Milne

Video & Broadcast Design

Adam Jenns

MOBILE BROADBAND DONGLE

Option iCON 401

€200 (£181) Get mobile 3G broadband with an existing SIM card – but does it work out better value for money?

Mobile broadband has finally taken off. All the phone stores are full of offers and networks are breathing a massive sigh of relief as they finally reap all their cash back from their multi-billion-pound acquisitions of 3G licenses. But what if you have an existing mobile contract that gives you 3G broadband access? Enter the iCON 401. Just slot your current SIM card into the stick and you can bring broadband mobile internet to your Mac. If you can get data on your mobile, chances are your SIM will work with the 401, but we really can't stress enough that you'll need to check out the fine print of your data plan to make sure you don't end up with a huge bill.

The 401 is a fine, if expensive, addition to your mobile armoury – and it adds the ability to insert a MicroSD card to save files to it. Additionally, you can plug in an external antenna.

The stick itself is actually made by Option, but distributor Nova Media directs Mac owners to use its own software, *launch2net* (check for a later version on the website when installing). It's a convenient app to control your net connection and tells you the time you've spent online as well as the amount of data downloaded and uploaded.

The 401's software needs Mac OS X 10.4.3 or higher.

The connection to the internet is seamless and the software works far better than many software apps supplied by mobile broadband providers. However, it lacks the simplicity of the latest generation of plug-and-play installation-free sticks.

Our final opinion, however, has to be governed by the price, and we'd recommend this stick only if you definitely need to use an existing SIM card. Plus, if you need to make add-ons to your tariff, it'll be worth doing some sums – the cost of the add-on each month, plus the cost of this stick, may mean you're better off signing up to a mobile broadband deal separately.

Dan Grabham

CONTACT INFO

Manufacturer Nova Media
www.novamedia.de
Latest price on TechRadar
www.techradar.com/527702

KEY SPECS

Uses existing SIM, Micro SD slot for storage, multimode HSUPA/UMTS/GPRS/EDGE/SM, up to 7.2 MB/sec download with HSDPA

FOR AND AGAINST

- ⊕ Mobile broadband with your contract
- ⊕ Nicely made
- ⊕ launch2net software pleasant to use
- ⊕ Good internet connection
- ⊖ Quite expensive
- ⊖ Slightly confusing instructions

VERDICT

★★★⯪☆

"Potentially useful, but you'll need the right tariff and use an existing SIM card."

MOBILE BROADBAND WIRELESS ROUTER

Option GlobeSurfer III

€339 (£306) Great idea, but does a mobile broadband router provide good value for money?

This wireless access point turns a mobile broadband-enabled SIM card into a shared internet connection that can be accessed by numerous devices, from laptops to iPhones. But like many expensive, niche devices, you'll need to have a specific use in mind for it.

With the proliferation of WiFi and mobile broadband dongles, the GlobeSurfer III will only really be of use where you need to connect up devices that wouldn't have access to the internet via other means.

You'll also need to be able to get hold of a SIM card with the right kind of tariff; offering plenty of data bandwidth. The GlobeSurfer III's use isn't rooted in the consumer world; and it's much more likely to appeal to those who absolutely need several remote machines to have data access. For example, this will avoid you turning up to that crucial website presentation relying on your hosts to have the ability to hook your machines up to their corporate network.

The GlobeSurfer III is a great idea, but you will need to have a specific use for it.

Set-up is reasonably simple – insert the SIM into the body of the device and stand it up using the flip-out stand, then configure the access point using a browser-based interface; an easy set-up wizard helps. The initial configuration is performed using a wired connection (there's Gigabit Ethernet, should you have a newer Mac). And, with a good 3G connection, we found working with the device seamless (once you choose to connect) and connectivity problem-free across the 802.11g wireless. You can also send and receive text messages via the interface.

But as with the Option 401 above, the main problem is price. £300 is expensive, and cheaper equivalents are available. And even if you have a use in mind, you'll probably find it's cheaper to use individual connections or share an internet connection through other means.

Dan Grabham

CONTACT INFO

Manufacturer Nova Media
www.novamedia.de
Latest price on TechRadar
www.techradar.com/527758

KEY SPECS

Speeds up to HSDPA 7.2Mbps, 802.11b/g WiFi, WEP, WPA, WPA2 wireless security
Requires OS X 10.3.9 or higher

FOR AND AGAINST

- ⊕ Good access for multiple machines
- ⊕ Set-up is fairly easy
- ⊕ Fast 3G support
- ⊖ You'll need the right data tariff
- ⊖ Extremely expensive
- ⊖ Needs a specific use in mind

VERDICT

★★⯪☆☆

"While the idea appeals, we can't see beyond the price. And the GlobeSurfer III is too dear"

iPOD TOUCH PROTECTORS

Belkin Silicone Sleeves

£10 Three natty protectors for your iPod touch…

CONTACT INFO

Manufacturer Belkin
www.belkin.co.uk
Latest price on TechRadar
www.techradar.com/492511

VERDICT

★★★☆☆

"They get the job done, but are overpriced for what they are."

These three silicone sleeves for your iPod touch are impact resistant, easy to grip, allow access to all your iPod's controls and keep your dock connector-free for charging and syncing. There's three of them, so if you damage one you've always got a spare, and they come in black, red and opaque if you feel the need to match your iPod case with your outfit. There's nothing covering the screen in any way, shape or form, but if there was, you'd have to remove it to use the device. They do stop you scratching the back of your iPod, though, and provide a reasonable degree of protection if it's dropped from a height.

Trouble is, the cheapest online price we could find was a smidgen over a tenner, which hardly represents value for money when you can buy similar Belkin sleeves individually for under £2 at Amazon, or unbranded silicone cases for around a quid at **www.dealextreme.com**.

Ian Osborne

ALUMINIUM LAPTOP STAND

Rain Design mStand

£25 Use your laptop in comfort…

CONTACT INFO

Manufacturer Rain Design, Inc
www.raindesigninc.com
Latest price on TechRadar
www.techradar.com/528462

VERDICT

★★★☆☆

"The mStand from Rain Design does a useful job and does it well."

With Rain Design's mStand, you can use your laptop like a desktop. Just position your laptop on the stand and connect a wireless or USB keyboard and mouse. The laptop's screen is in the ideal position for desktop viewing, and you have your keyboard in front of you. You can use the laptop's own keyboard while it's on the stand, but it's not recommended. The keyboard angle is too steep for comfort, and the unit wobbles as you type.

When used with a self-contained keyboard, the mStand does a great job. It's stylish, sturdy and allows a decent airflow around your laptop. It's moulded from a single piece of aluminium, and has a hole in the rear to trail your cables. When not in use, you can store your keyboard under the mStand, and it's ideal if you want to connect peripherals through a separate USB hub, giving you a de facto docking station for your laptop.

Ian Osborne

iMAC/DISPLAY TURNTABLE

Rain Design i360

£25 A lazy Susan for your Mac?

CONTACT INFO

Manufacturer Rain Design, Inc
www.raindesigninc.com
Latest price on TechRadar
www.techradar.com/528468

VERDICT

★★★½☆

"Functional and attractive, but unnecessary for trivial adjustments.."

Everybody with an Apple display or an iMac (G5 or later), grab the sides of your screen and rotate it right and left on the spot. Not difficult, is it? If all you need to do is occasionally adjust its position for comfort, you don't need an i360.

But what if you regularly need to turn your display, or you need easy access to the ports on its reverse? Then the Rain Design i360, a rotating turntable that fits over the foot of your Apple display or iMac, could well be for you.

It's a sturdy beast, with a heavy-duty metal base and an upper made of plastic. It's easy to fit using the supplied Allen key and, when fitted, it won't slide around on your desk. It will, however, let you rotate at will, through 360 degrees if necessary…

The i360 does what it promises and does it well, but make sure you need it.

Ian Osborne

RETRACTABLE LAPTOP LOCK

Kensington MicroSaver

£20 For on-the-go security and peace of mind…

CONTACT INFO

Manufacturer Kensington
www.kensington.com
Latest price on TechRadar
www.techradar.com/527779

VERDICT

★★★★☆

"An excellent lock for mobile devices on the move from Kensington."

Losing your laptop is no fun. Even if it's insured there's the hassle of getting a new one and claiming your money back, and the loss of data could prove anything from inconvenient to catastrophic, depending on what you've got on there. A high quality laptop lock is a wise investment.

Kensington has been in the computer security business for more than 25 years, so there's a wealth of experience behind this one. It's a great little lock, too. Its 1.2-metre cable retracts into a convenient pocket-sized plastic case. Loop it around a fixed object like a table leg, and then fit the lock using a standard T-shaped K-slot mechanism. It comes with two keys, and if you register their serial number on Kensington's website, you can order more.

The MicroSaver is sturdy enough for a laptop bag and will deter a casual thief.

Ian Osborne

Kensington

Sold out!

ISSUE 199 September 2008

Connect your Mac
32 great iPhone apps
Mac OS X timesavers
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Make a website in a weekend
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Dream Capture 1: Record video
ExactScan 1.8.5: Digitise documents
Plus: Games, video tutorials & more

Sold out!

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Happy birthday, *MacFormat*!
20 Mac classics
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AppDelete 1.1.1: Remove software
TextSpeech Pro Basic: Mac speech app
Plus: Demos, video tutorials & more

ISSUE 201 November 2008

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All new iPod touch and nanos!
Apple takes over the high street
The history of the iPod
Use your iPhone as a remote
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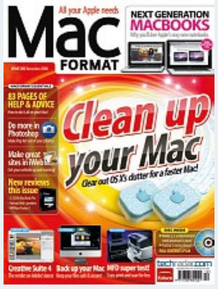
Six Mac web browsers compared

On the disc
HoudahSpot 2.0.9: Spotlight add-on
Invoice 2.1.5: Keep track of finances
Crossword Wizard 4SE: Create crosswords
Plus: Games, video tutorials & more



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Adobe *Creative Suite 4* in-depth review
MacFormat's Christmas gift guide
Keep files safe and secure
Make great files in *iWeb*
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Email Backup Pro 1.5.4: Back up email
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Plus: Hot demos, video tutorials & more

Sold out!

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Save energy and protect files
Master *Keynote* transitions
Expand shots in *Photoshop Elements*
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macVCR 1: Screen recording program
DocHaven 2.0: Manage documents
Plus: ToCA demo, video tutorials & more

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Add podcasts to your iPhone
Six mouse and keyboard sets tested

On the disc
ThinkFree Office 3.5: Full office suite
Dossier 2.0: Keep notes and store info
Parallels Desktop 4 demo: Run Windows
Plus: ToCA demo, DVD clips & more

Back issues

Missed a copy of MacFormat? Order a back issue now, but hurry – stock is limited!

You've only just missed...

Issue 205 – March 2009

iLife '09: hands-on report

We tell you why you *need* to upgrade…

Plus…

- 101 essential Mac timesavers
- Make calls on your iPod touch
- Fix annoying Mac problems
- Study at home using a Mac
- Apple LED Cinema Display reviewed
- Six online printing services tested

On the disc

MailSteward Lite 8.0.8: Organise your email
ProteMac Meter 2.0: Track network traffic
TheRecipeManager 2.2.0: Store recipes on your Mac
Plus: *Photoshop CS4* demo, video training & more!

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MacBook Air

Mac FORMAT
ON SALE
Wednesday
1 April
2009

Next issue...
iTunes *masterclass*
Get more from iTunes, iPod and iPhone

Six iTunes servers rated
Access all your tunes from one place

DISCOVER HOW TO...
- Start using Twitter on your Mac
- Perform a mail merge in Pages
- Use iPhoto '09's new editing tools

ALL THIS AND MORE!

** Contents subject to change*

iPhone apps

Christopher Phin picks out the very best software for the iPhone and the iPod touch

SNIPPETS

Read the classics on your iPhone

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>
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Oliver Twist

Pages 184 - 193

whom he had followed. " You 're considerate, indeed, sir. To humour me ! Well, well, it's no matter."

" Why, for what," said the gentleman in a kinder tone, " for what purpose can you have brought us to this strange place ? Why not have let me speak to you above

Google has launched an iPhone-optimised site for reading public domain books. These have been scanned and run through an optical character recognition (OCR) engine and also work on Android-based devices. Simply launch your browser and go to http://books.google.com/m. There are more than half a million public domain books available outside the US. The presentation isn't as slick as the *Classics* app we reviewed last issue, and the OCR is sometimes garbled, but it really is an astonishing resource nevertheless.

App Store DRM cracked

CRACKULOUS
BY SALADFORK

***Crackulous* has promised to strip the digital rights management (DRM) from apps bought for the iPhone/iPod touch platform, so that they can be uploaded and 'shared with the community'. With apps available for no more than a couple of quid, it seems like piracy for the sake of it. Support the developers and not *Crackulous*.**

iPHONE APP OF THE MONTH

iStat

£1.19 Keep tabs on your Mac's resources… over the web

Mmmmmm, stats! This app's job is to give you information on how the resources on your Macs are being used. (It only supports Macs at the moment, but the developer hasn't ruled out the possibility of being able to monitor Windows and Linux boxes in the future.)

It works by running a daemon on the Macs you want to monitor, and then communicates the usage information over the network to your iPhone. While the daemon runs transparently, there is a server app that can be used to generate passcodes, to show connected clients and to keep a log.

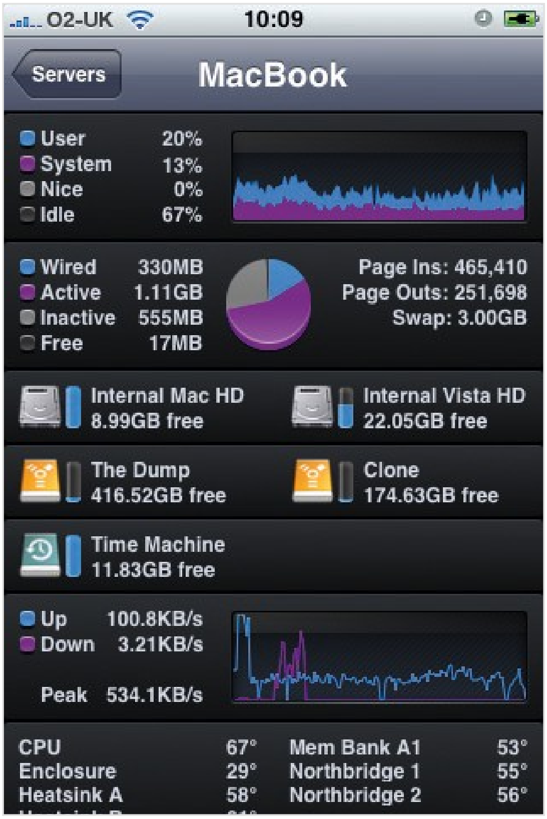
> "The presentation is beautiful with elegant colour schemes and clear, concise information"

The presentation is beautiful, with elegant colour schemes and clear, concise information. Processor load and upload/download stats all show as easy-to-read graphs, and memory allocation is shown as a pie chart. You can see how much space is available on mounted volumes – complete with icons, no less – and the temperature and fan sensors on your Mac are monitored and their values communicated too. It's a fantastic diagnostic tool, and is especially useful for monitoring those Macs that act as servers. And indeed customers of the Mac mini co-location service **www.macminicolo.net** can get five licenses for absolutely free.

Macs on your local network are automatically discovered with *Bonjour*, but if you want to access Macs over the internet – so that you can, for example, check their status while you're on a bus and connected to the cell network – you'll have to set up port-forwarding on your router. It's reasonably easy, but because it's different for each router model, you're left on your own here.

iStat also offers you stats for your iPhone, showing IP addresses, MAC addresses, your iPhone's Unique Identifier – plus the option to email the latter two – and memory allocation. Plus, usefully, you can use it to free up inactive iPhone memory, and to perform pings and traceroutes using your iPhone.

Our biggest criticism is that there's no reporting of what processes are using the most CPU cycles, and nor can you actually do anything with your Mac, such as triggering a reboot. We'd like to see more help given on port forwarding, too, or the adoption of a different way to connect to Macs over the internet.



User 20%
System 13%
Nice 0%
Idle 67%

Wired 330MB
Active 1.11GB
Inactive 555MB
Free 17MB

Page Ins: 465,410
Page Outs: 251,698
Swap: 3.00GB

Internal Mac HD 8.99GB free
Internal Vista HD 22.05GB free
The Dump 416.52GB free
Clone 174.63GB free
Time Machine 11.83GB free

Up 100.8KB/s
Down 3.21KB/s
Peak 534.1KB/s

CPU 67°
Enclosure 29°
Heatsink A 58°
Mem Bank A1 53°
Northbridge 1 55°
Northbridge 2 56°

VERDICT

★★★★☆

"Fantastic presentation of your Macs' vital statistics, though it doesn't tell you which apps are hogging the processor."

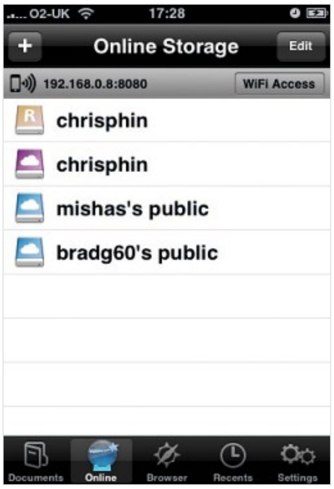
DOCUMENT MANAGER

ReaddleDocs

£5.99 Is there anything it won't do? Ah, editing…

Like *Air Sharing* (see *MacFormat*, March 2009) *ReaddleDocs* turns your iPhone into a WebDAV server, so you can mount it on a Mac or PC over a WiFi network, and copy files to and from it. Once on your iPhone, you can view them (most major formats are supported) and email them as attachments. You can also save attachments from your email by forwarding them to a special email address and send them to *Readdle*'s iDisk-like space – you get 512MB free. You can also use the built-in browser to download files from the net, though it can be a bit kludgy.

You can't edit the documents, however, and while we welcome the ability to copy files from your iDisk and others' Public folders, there's no provision to upload documents to them, and if you wish to email or view a document, it has to be downloaded to your iPhone first, which is inconvenient.


O2-UK
17:28
+
Online Storage
Edit
192.168.0.8:8080
WiFi Access
chrisphin
chrisphin
mishas's public
bradg60's public
Documents
Online
Browser
Recents
Settings

VERDICT

★★★★☆

"A good stab at an all-in-one solution, but rough edges remain and you can't edit or annotate docs."

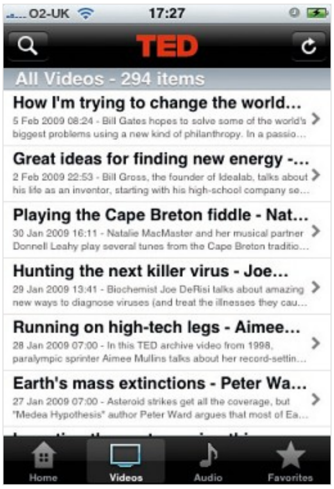
MEDIA LIBRARY

TED

£FREE Don't fire up a game; expand your mind…

The annual TED conference is… difficult to describe. It brings together smart people from all kinds of disciplines – you might have heard about Bill Gates' stunt this year, where he released a jar of mosquitoes in the auditorium where he was talking about malaria – the talks are inspiring. This app lists them all for you to watch, whenever and whenever you want. The videos are streamed to your iPhone, and will happily play over the mobile network; you just might have to be a little patient as they buffer.

The app itself is fairly basic – running times aren't listed and there's no way to mark your already-listened-to talks as watched, although you can 'favourite' episodes. Still, it's a little surprising not to see community features such as comments threads made available. Still, the app and the talks are free, and they're simply brilliant.


O2-UK
17:27
TED
All Videos - 294 items
Home
Videos
Audio
Favorites

How I'm trying to change the world...
5 Feb 2009 08:24 - Bill Gates hopes to solve some of the world's biggest problems using a new kind of philanthropy. In a passio...

Great ideas for finding new energy -...
2 Feb 2009 22:53 - Bill Gross, the founder of Idealab, talks about his life as an inventor, starting with his high-school company se...

Playing the Cape Breton fiddle - Nat...
30 Jan 2009 16:11 - Natalie MacMaster and her musical partner Donnell Leahy play several tunes from the Cape Breton traditio...

Hunting the next killer virus - Joe...
29 Jan 2009 13:41 - Biochemist Joe DeRisi talks about amazing new ways to diagnose viruses (and treat the illnesses they cau...

Running on high-tech legs - Aimee...
28 Jan 2009 07:00 - In this TED archive video from 1998, paralympic sprinter Aimee Mullins talks about her record-settin...

Earth's mass extinctions - Peter Wa...
27 Jan 2009 07:00 - Asteroid strikes get all the coverage, but "Medea Hypothesis" author Peter Ward argues that most of Ea...

VERDICT

★★★★½

"Some of the most brilliant minds, in some of the most inspiring talks ever. For free."

TRACKING APP

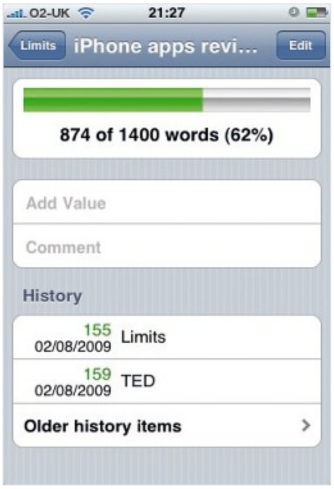
Limits

£3.49 Weight? Expenses? Track anything you like!

Limits eschews the single-task focus of apps such as *Weightbot* (see *MacFormat*, March 2009) in favour of a system that can track anything quantifiable. The idea is simple: create a new tracking task, give it a limit – or target, depending on how you're thinking about the task – then enter the units you'll be measuring in. You can create as many tasks as you like.

Now all you need to do is enter your values – hours worked, weight gain (or loss; negative values are allowed), whatever. *Limits* shows a simple bar to illustrate how far towards (or over) your target you are.

It's a decent system, though the 'master of all trades' approach can force you to think laterally about how to frame your limits, and you can't edit or remove items from the history or export the results to use in expense claims, for example. The interface could be prettier, too.


O2-UK
21:27
Limits
iPhone apps revi...
Edit
Add Value
Comment
History
Older history items

874 of 1400 words (62%)

155 02/08/2009 Limits
159 02/08/2009 TED

VERDICT

★★★½☆

"Flexible, but inelegant; plus, even at this low price, it feels a little expensive."

TUBE PLANNER

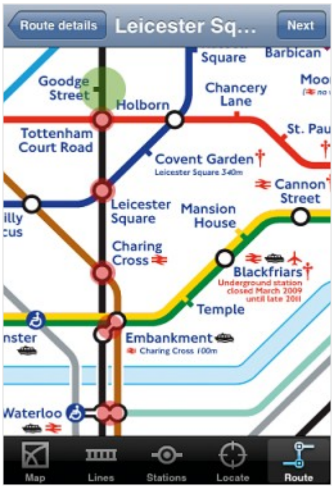
London Tube

59p Visiting London? You'll need a Tube map…

You could, in theory, download the PDF of the Tube map and save it to your iPhone using, say, *ReaddleDocs*. And then you could bookmark the excellent **mindtheapp.com/tubes** in your iPhone's web browser to get the latest information on delays on the London Underground.

The London Tube is, as we write, 80% off. At this price, you've little to lose. It gives you a scrollable map, information about what lines run through each station, and can locate you and show your nearest station. Its special skill is calculating optimum routes from one station to another, but – and we know the technical challenges involved – it's annoying that it can't take into account live status information. Worse, the routes are often not those Londoners – or even rational beings – would have chosen.

It's worth it for the scrollable map, but otherwise it's disappointing. ●


Route details
Leicester Sq...
Next
Square
Barbican
Goodge Street
Holborn
Chancery Lane
Tottenham Court Road
St. Pau
Covent Garden
Leicester Square 340m
Cannon Street
Leicester Square
Mansion House
illy
cus
Charing Cross
Blackfriars
Underground station closed March 2009 until late 2011
Temple
nster
Embankment
Charing Cross 100m
Waterloo
Map
Lines
Stations
Locate
Route

VERDICT

★★☆☆☆

"59p isn't much for a perfectly decent tube map, but the rest of the app is disappointing."

Shareware

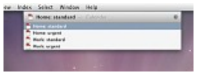
Our shareware guru, Craig Grannell looks at his pick of the month's best shareware

Mac FORMAT On the disc

Find all reviewed titles on this issue's *MacFormat* disc

SNIPPETS

Ready for takeoff



At the time of writing, *LaunchBar 5* is being readied for release. With *Quicksilver's* development stalled, *LaunchBar* appears to be taking up the slack in the meantime. The new version integrates support for *iCal*, Quick Look, *Firefox 3*, and adds fully customisable hot keys, redesigned index and preferences windows and the ability to merge clipboard items. Expect to see a full review of the application in the next issue of *MacFormat.*

Deeper and deeper

Joel Barriere's *OnyX* is a favourite among Mac users, providing plentiful options for maintaining and optimising Macs. However, its feature-set is split between fine-tuning systems and messing about with interface components. Many people prefer honed-down applications for specific tasks, and with that in mind Barriere provides *Maintenance* (for system maintenance) and *Deeper* (for enabling hidden functions). Both applications have recently been updated and are definitely worth a look.

SHAREWARE OF THE MONTH

PhoneView 2.1.2

$20 (£15) Get more out of your iPhone or iPod touch – literally!

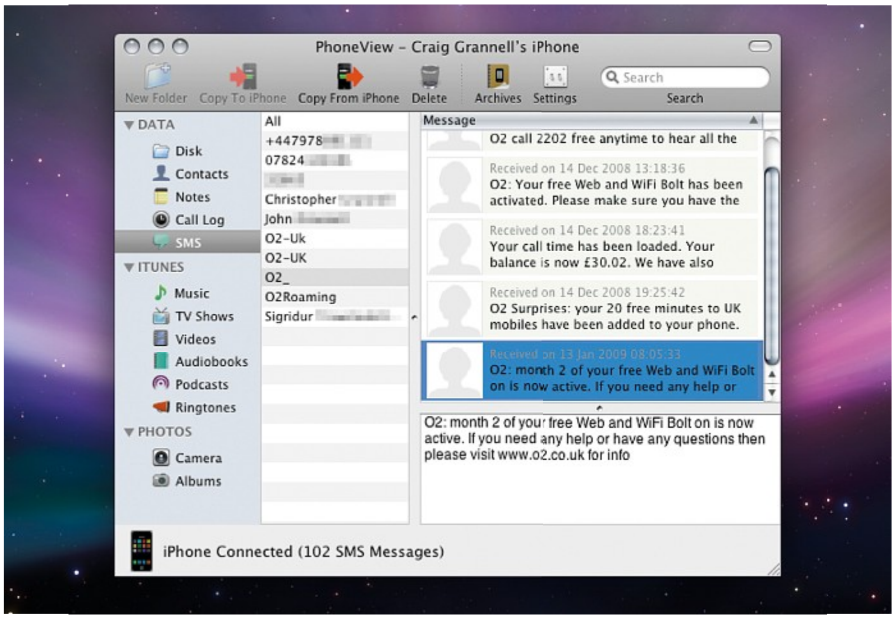
A criticism levelled at the iPhone and iPod touch is that although the software's great, it's too closed. While some of Apple's mobile applications happily transfer content to their Mac OS X equivalents, others don't (in some cases, because they don't have one). *PhoneView* deals with this shortcoming, and more besides.

In short, *PhoneView* enables you to delve into the innards of your iPhone (or iPod touch – most *PhoneView* features work with that device, too) from your Mac. Along with activating 'disk' mode, so you can use an iPhone to store regular Mac files, *PhoneView* provides extensive access to stored data and media.

Regarding data, contacts can be listed and searched, but this provides no advantages over *Address Book*. However, **Notes**, **Call Log** and **SMS** sections enable you to view your device's data and, more importantly, save it to your Mac's hard drive. In the event of minor iPhone problems, you can ensure your content's doubly safe before attempting a restore. Even better, you can drop text documents on *PhoneView* to add notes, and you can edit existing notes within the application.

Regarding media, *PhoneView* is less interesting, but audio previews are handy when your iPhone's docked to a Mac it doesn't sync with. *PhoneView* also enabled us to save photos when *iPhoto* wrongly claimed our iPhone's Camera Roll was empty.

It's not all sunshine and flowers, though – *PhoneView* initially takes ages to retrieve data, and an iPhone reboot is needed when notes are amended. Also, you need to disable iPhone's passcode lock to make changes with *PhoneView*, and during restores files saved using *PhoneView* will be deleted. In general, though, for iPhone data management – and, perhaps more importantly, data backup – *PhoneView's* a must-buy.



O2 call 2202 free anytime to hear all the

Received on 14 Dec 2008 13:18:36
O2: Your free Web and WiFi Bolt has been activated. Please make sure you have the

Received on 14 Dec 2008 18:23:41
Your call time has been loaded. Your balance is now £30.02. We have also

Received on 14 Dec 2008 19:25:42
O2 Surprises: your 20 free minutes to UK mobiles have been added to your phone.

Received on 13 Jan 2009 08:05:33
O2: month 2 of your free Web and WiFi Bolt on is now active. If you need any help or

O2: month 2 of your free Web and WiFi Bolt on is now active. If you need any help or have any questions then please visit www.o2.co.uk for info

iPhone Connected (102 SMS Messages)

> "For iPhone data management – and, perhaps more importantly, data backup – PhoneView's a must-buy"

CONTACT INFO

Developer Ecamm Network
www.ecamm.com/mac/phoneview

VERDICT

★★★★☆

"A great application for iPhone and iPod touch users. Notes in particular is fantastic."

Mailplane 2.0.1

$25 (£18) www.mailplaneapp.com

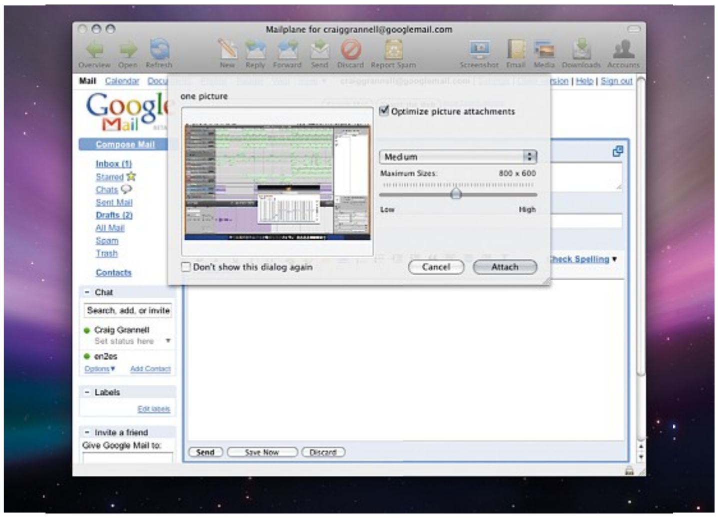
Given that Google actively encourages you to use standard protocols and clients like *Mail* for accessing Google Mail, and seeing as you can use *Fluid* for creating a Google Mail single-site browser, you might wonder why we're recommending this standalone app that costs nearly 20 quid. It's because *Mailplane* is geared utterly towards Google Mail, and it provides the best experience for serious users.

The more you use *Mailplane*, the more it impresses: there's multiple-account access, integration with Mac media and contacts, optimisation for images dragged to *Mailplane*, rapid application of labels, and a whole lot more. The Dock icon and menu extra also work well, offering immediate feedback regarding new messages and handy system-wide shortcuts to important options.

VERDICT

★★★★☆

"Not for everyone, but indispensable for serious Google Mail users."



one picture

☑ Optimize picture attachments

Medium

Maximum Sizes: 800 x 600

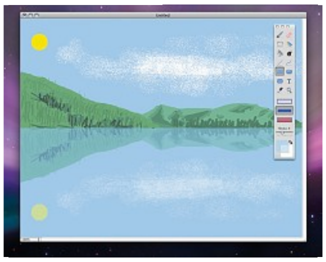
Low High

☐ Don't show this dialog again

Paintbrush 1.2

£FREE http://paintbrush.sourceforge.net

Akin to Apple's defunct *MacPaint* and Microsoft *Paint*, *Paintbrush* is a basic image editor. It's certainly not a rival to *Photoshop*, but it's not supposed to be – *Paintbrush* is a lightweight, quickfire application for doodling. That said, anti-aliased brushes would be nice, as would the ability to fill a selection, and the restrictions of the current toolset mean *Paintbrush* isn't appropriate for any kind of photographic retouching. However, for children and beginners, it's a worthwhile download.



VERDICT

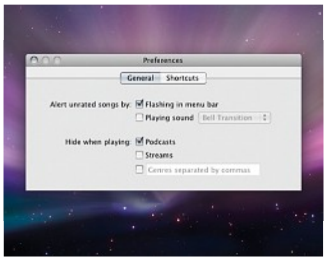
★★★☆☆

"Decent for newcomers and beginners, but a little too basic for anyone else."

I Love Stars 3.0

£FREE www.potionfactory.com/blog/2008/05/15/i-love-stars

This little application is perfect for the slightly obsessive, as *I Love Stars* enables you, at a glance, to see whether the currently playing *iTunes* track is rated. This is done via stars in the menu bar, which can be clicked to adjust the rating. This update also adds an alert (flashing and/or a sound) when a track isn't rated, options for hiding the application when podcasts and streams are played, and system-wide keyboard shortcuts for applying ratings. We love it!



Alert unrated songs by: ☑ Flashing in menu bar
☐ Playing sound Bell Transition

Hide when playing: ☑ Podcasts
☐ Streams
☐ Genres separated by commas

VERDICT

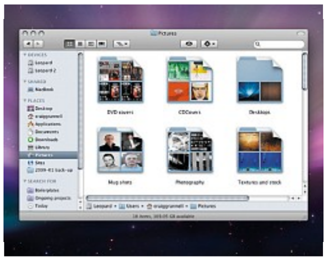
★★★★★

"A perfect iTunes add-on – simple, stable and genuinely useful."

OsXP Folders 0.1

£FREE www.kickman.com

This Quick Look plug-in wedges itself in *Finder* views, aping a view Windows XP offers but that the Mac lacks. Folders containing images display image previews, rather than the basic folder icon. This would be absolutely fine if the result produced wasn't so amazingly ugly, stretching images to squares, and plonking them on a nasty abstraction of a Mac OS X folder. The revised folders also didn't show for us in **Cover Flow**'s main display area, which is a big disappointment for us.



VERDICT

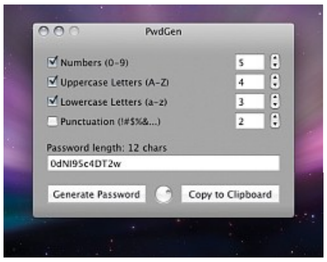
★★☆☆☆

"Without doubt a case of an idea being better than the reality."

PwdGen 1.2

£FREE http://softhing.com/pwdgen.html

Too often, people's online accounts are easily accessible, due to simplistic passwords being used. *PwdGen* is a straightforward piece of freeware that builds randomised passwords from user-defined criteria, enabling you to define how many numbers, letters (uppercase and lowercase) and punctuation characters to use. The shuttle wheel for shuttling characters is a nice touch, and although *PwdGen* passwords aren't particularly memorable, they're also impossible to guess, which is kind of the point. ●



☑ Numbers (0–9) 5

☑ Uppercase Letters (A–Z) 4

☑ Lowercase Letters (a–z) 3

☐ Punctuation (!#$%&...) 2

Password length: 12 chars

0dNI95c4DT2w

VERDICT

★★★½☆

"A bit basic and hardly unique, but it does its job well enough."

SENNHEISE
MacBook

INSTANT MESSENGERS

Get the message

Words Cliff Joseph **Photography** Joby Sessions

There are many options for chatting online. We compare the top instant messaging Mac apps

The appeal of instant messaging programs is obvious. Email messages can take several minutes to travel from one person to another, so you never really feel like you're conversing in real time.

In contrast, instant-messaging programs are just that – instant. You type a message, hit the [Enter] button, and the person you're chatting with will receive your message in the blink of an eye. The first messaging program to take off was AIM – AOL *Instant Messenger* – but it has since been followed by rivals such as Microsoft *Messenger, Skype* and, of course, Apple's own *iChat* on the Mac.

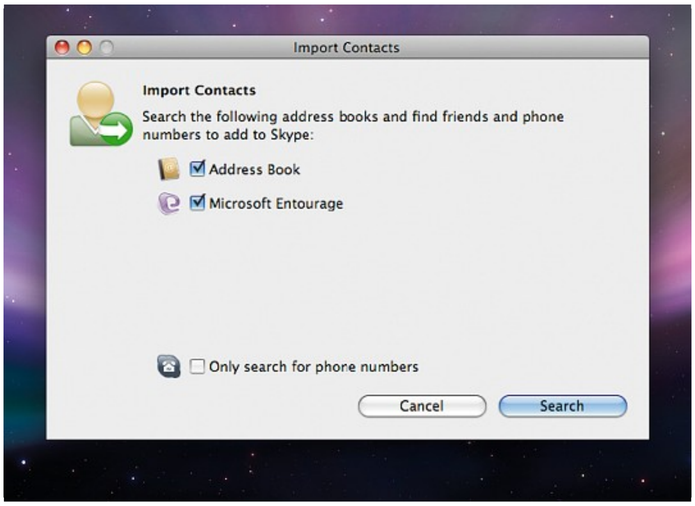
These programs may have started off as simple text messaging programs, but over the years they've become more sophisticated, adding audio and video features. Some large corporations use instant messaging to streamline their internal communications.

> "These programs started as text messaging programs, but over the years they've become more sophisticated"

There are several IM apps for the Mac, all with different strengths and weaknesses, so we've picked six of the best to see how they cope with a range of messaging tasks. ▶

ON TEST

Adium 1.3.2 £FREE	**AOL Instant Messenger 1.0** £FREE	**Apple iChat 4.0** £FREE
Microsoft Messenger 7 £FREE	**Skype 2.7** £FREE	**Yahoo! Messenger 3.0** £FREE



Import Contacts

Search the following address books and find friends and phone numbers to add to Skype:

☑ Address Book

☑ Microsoft Entourage

☐ Only search for phone numbers

Adium, iChat and *Skype* can import addresses from *Address Book. Skype* also imports from *Entourage*.

TEST ONE

Setting up

How quickly can you start chatting online?

You get started with all these programs in basically the same way. Once you've downloaded and installed you need to create an account and a nickname. This is done by entering an email address and password into the program itself, or by going to the developer's website.

iChat is easy to set up. You can use an existing .Mac, MobileMe or AOL email address, or let *iChat* redirect you to the Apple website to set up an account. Creating an account for Microsoft *Messenger* is long-winded as it has many services – MSN, Passport, Windows Live – and leaves you wondering what you're signing up for. Yahoo! *Messenger* is still in beta testing phase and prone to crashing, so we can't recommend it as it is.

Adium and *iChat* can both import names and emails from *Address Book*, but *Skype* can import from *Address Book* and Microsoft *Entourage*.

Adium works with a wide range of messaging programs, and allows you to create many types of accounts. That's useful for experienced chat users, but might be a little confusing for people who are online chatting for the first time.

RESULTS	
Adium	★★★☆☆
AIM	★★☆☆☆
Apple iChat	★★★★☆
Microsoft Messenger	★★☆☆☆
Skype	★★★★☆
Yahoo! Messenger	★★☆☆☆

TEST TWO

Text messaging

Text messaging is easy – if you get the basics right

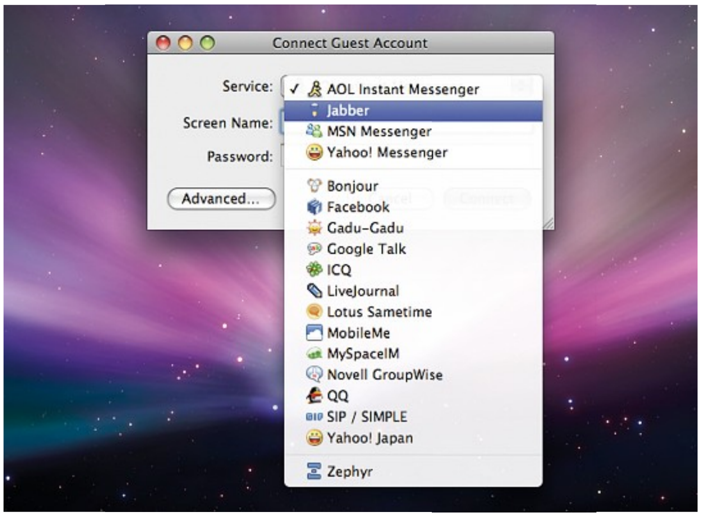
All these programs allow you to send simple text messages and to adorn them with emoticons to indicate moods or gestures, such as a 'smiley' or 'thumbs up'. *Skype* and *iChat* have limited sets of emoticons, because they focus more on audio and video features. Yahoo! *Messenger* has a more extensive range, but this beta version is slow and unresponsive.

Adium, *AIM* and Microsoft *Messenger* are limited purely to text messaging (unlike their Windows versions). As a result, these programs provide more extensive emoticons and avatars – pictures that represent you online.

These are cosmetic details, but it's *Adium* that provides the best set of text messaging features. *Adium*'s great strength is that it is compatible with all the main messaging programs for both Macs and PCs, so you can chat with others regardless of which app or computer they use. *Adium* even allows you to chat with people on Facebook without having to open Facebook.

The range of options in *Adium* may be confusing for newcomers – in which case we'd recommend *iChat* or Microsoft *Messenger* – but *Adium* has the best text messaging features.

RESULTS	
Adium	★★★★★
AIM	★★★☆☆
Apple iChat	★★★☆☆
Microsoft Messenger	★★★★☆
Skype	★★★☆☆
Yahoo! Messenger	★★☆☆☆



Adium has the best text messaging features, including compatibility with different apps and platforms.

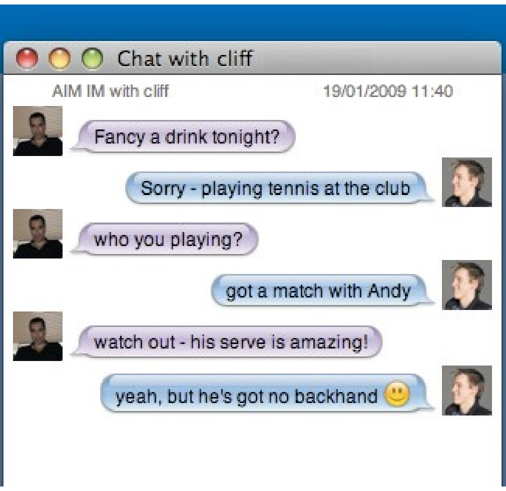
COMMUNICATING | How they all work

Instant messaging apps communicate with each other by using a series of protocols – standard methods that determine how data can be exchanged between computers and programs. *AIM* uses OSCAR (Open System for CommunicAtion in Real-time) to transfer data between computers. Apple's *iChat* only runs on Macs, but Apple has done a deal with AOL that allows it to use the OSCAR protocol, so *iChat* can communicate with *AIM for* the PC.

The range of protocols that a messaging program supports determines whether or not it can communicate with other programs developed by other companies. *Adium* can't handle audio or video chat, but it supports a wide range of protocols for text chat, which is why it's able to chat with other programs, including the unholy trinity of *AIM*, Yahoo! *Messenger* and Microsoft *Messenger*.

There's also a protocol known as XMPP (eXtensible Messaging and Presence Protocol), which was used in chat program *Jabber*. Although *Jabber* is now owned by giant networking company, Cisco, the Jabber protocol has been adopted by other programs, including *iChat* and *GoogleTalk*. This means that programs that support the Jabber protocol can also communicate with each other.

The problem here is that the programs that support *Jabber* all work in different ways, and offer a different range of features. So while *iChat*'s Jabber support allows it to communicate with people who use *GoogleTalk*, setting up the Jabber options can be fiddly, and is best left to people with a more in-depth knowledge of messaging systems.


Chat with cliff

AIM IM with cliff 19/01/2009 11:40

Fancy a drink tonight?

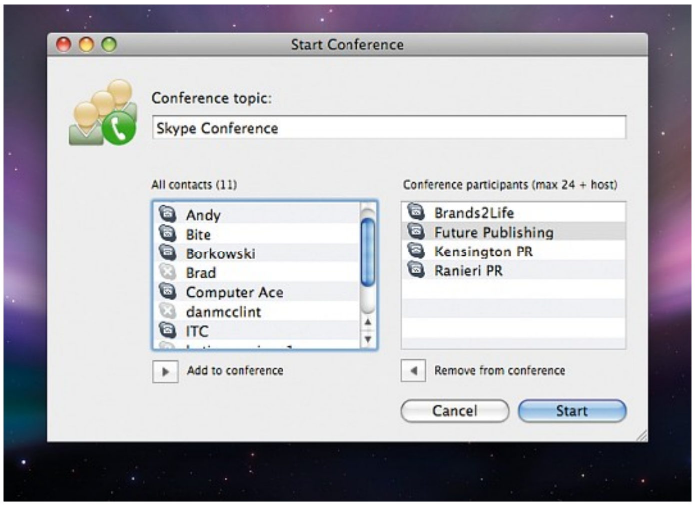
Sorry - playing tennis at the club

who you playing?

got a match with Andy

watch out - his serve is amazing!

yeah, but he's got no backhand 🙂



Conference topic: Skype Conference

All contacts (11)
Andy
Bite
Borkowski
Brad
Computer Ace
danmcclint
ITC

Conference participants (max 24 + host)
Brands2Life
Future Publishing
Kensington PR
Ranieri PR

Not all apps here support audio chatting, but out of those that do, *Skype* cannot be beaten.

TEST THREE

Audio chat

Why type when you can talk instead?

Adium and *AIM* are limited to text messaging, so they're of no use for making voice calls. Microsoft *Messenger* can only handle audio or video chat if you set up a special 'corporate' account using Microsoft's Office Communications Server, which limits it to organisations that want to use Microsoft *Messenger* for internal communications. Yahoo! *Messenger* can handle audio chat, but once again is too buggy.

That leaves *iChat* and *Skype* as the only real choices for audio chat. Both programs work well – assuming you have a suitable microphone and speakers connected to your Mac. If the person you want to chat with has a microphone connected then both programs will automatically display a telephone symbol by that person's name in your **Buddy** list. You can start an audio session by clicking on the telephone symbol. You can invite nine other people to audio chat in *iChat*, but *Skype*'s **Conference Call** feature allows 24 other participants to a join. *Skype* also has the ability to save you money by using your internet connection to make calls to ordinary phones, so calls are less expensive.

RESULTS	
Adium	☆☆☆☆☆
AIM	☆☆☆☆☆
Apple iChat	★★★★☆
Microsoft Messenger	★★☆☆☆
Skype	★★★★★
Yahoo! Messenger	★★☆☆☆

TEST FOUR

Video chat

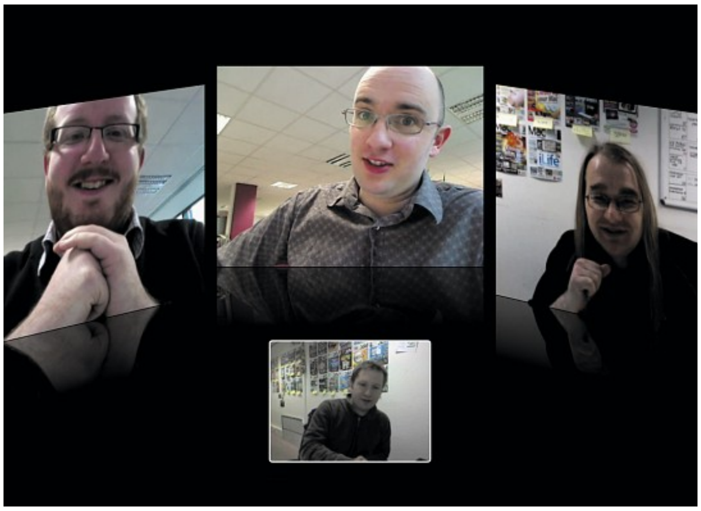
Only two programs really handle video chat properly

As with audio chatting, *Adium* and *AIM* can't handle video. Microsoft *Messenger* can only handle video if you set up a corporate account, and Yahoo! *Messenger* kept crashing on us. So, once again, it's between *iChat* and *Skype*.

iChat's most impressive feature is its ability to create multi-user video-conferencing sessions with up to four people. You'll need a powerful Mac and a fast broadband connection, but for simple one-to-one chats most people will get by just fine. However, *iChat* does have limitations. There's no Windows version of *iChat*, so it's primarily designed for chatting only with other Mac users. If your Mac doesn't have one of Apple's built-in iSight webcams, you'll need to buy an external one – *iChat* can sometimes be a bit temperamental when working with non-Apple webcams.

Skype goes out of its way to provide information on its website on how to use the program with other types of webcam, and even lets you download special software to help you out. The Mac version is compatible with the Windows version, so it's the best app for video chatting with PC users.

RESULTS	
Adium	☆☆☆☆☆
AIM	☆☆☆☆☆
Apple iChat	★★★★☆
Microsoft Messenger	★★☆☆☆
Skype	★★★★☆
Yahoo! Messenger	★★☆☆☆



Only *iChat* and *Skype* can handle video chatting. If you need to chat to PC users, *Skype*'s the best option.

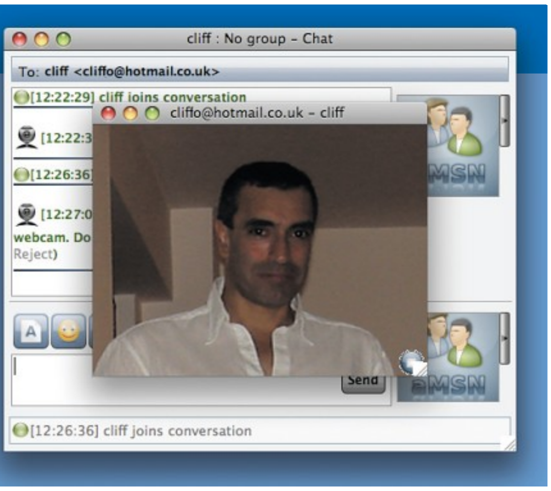
SEND IN THE CLONES | The alternatives

Microsoft *Messenger* – also known as *Windows Messenger* or *MSN* depending on which bit of the Microsoft website you look at – is the most popular instant-messaging program in Europe. However, as you'll see from our test results, the Mac version lacks a number of important features found in the PC version.

The Mac version of Microsoft *Messenger* is mainly designed for text messaging, and can only handle audio or video chats if you set up a Microsoft's Office Communications Server – a program designed for corporate communications systems, and not really suitable for chatting with your friends online.

However, there is a program called *aMSN* (**www.amsn-project.net**) that could be described as a 'clone' of *MSN*. Developed by a group of hobbyist programmers, *aMSN* looks and works very much like Microsoft *Messenger/MSN* and there are versions that run on PCs, Macs and even Linux computers. However, the Mac version of *aMSN* includes a number of features that are missing from Microsoft *Messenger* on the Mac – such as the ability to use a webcam for video chat. *aMSN* can also communicate with the standard Microsoft *Messenger* on either Macs or PCs, so if all your friends or colleagues are using Microsoft *Messenger* on their PCs you can use *aMSN* on your Mac to set up video chat sessions.

We also like *aMSN*'s ability to use skins that change the look of the program, as well as plug-ins that add extra features, such as a chatbot that answers messages automatically for you, or the ability to translate messages into other languages.



To: cliff <cliffo@hotmail.co.uk>

[12:22:29] cliff joins conversation
[12:22:3
[12:26:36]
[12:27:0
webcam. Do
Reject)

[12:26:36] cliff joins conversation

02:17 | Call with Cliff
More

Most people will want to chat with friends who have PCs, so compatibility is an important factor.

TEST FIVE

Mac to PC

How easy is it to chat with PC users?

Any good instant messaging program needs to work cross-platform so you can talk to PC users as well as fellow Mac users.

This is *iChat*'s big weakness. It's the best option for chatting with other Mac users, but there's no Windows version. Apple lets *iChat* communicate with the Windows version of *AIM* (see 'Send in the clones' box, p105), but there can be problems setting up video chats between the two apps.

There's no Windows version of *Adium* either, but it's versatile enough to communicate with just about any other messaging program on any computer. Its weakness, of course, is that it's limited to text messages only.

There are Mac and PC versions of *AIM, Skype,* Microsoft *Messenger* and Yahoo! *Messenger*, but Yahoo! *Messenger* is too buggy and the Mac versions of Microsoft *Messenger* and *AIM* are more limited than their PC counterparts, so you can only chat with PC users via text messages.

Only *Skype* is able to hold its head up here. The Mac and Windows versions work very well together and we had no problems setting up text, audio and video chat sessions.

RESULTS	
Adium	★★★★☆
AIM	★★★☆☆
Apple iChat	★★★☆☆
Microsoft Messenger	★★★☆☆
Skype	★★★★★
Yahoo! Messenger	★★☆☆☆

TEST SIX

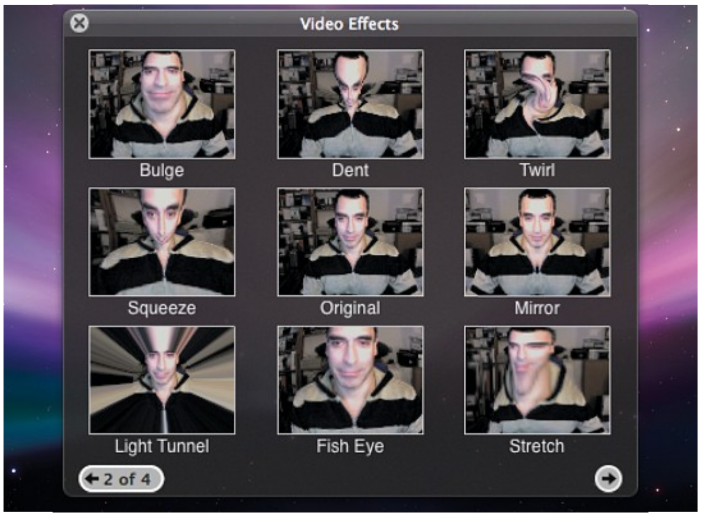
Added extras

These programs can do more than just chat

All these programs throw in a few extra features. They all allow you to transfer files to other people, so you can share work files with colleagues or holiday snaps with friends. Apple really goes to town here with **iChat Theatre**, which allows you to play entire *iPhoto* slideshows or *Keynote* presentations through *iChat*. There's also a screen sharing option that allows *iChat* users to take control of each other's computer. When you use this option you see the Desktop of your friend's Mac in the **iChat** window, and can use your mouse to control their computer (both people need to be using Leopard). And, of course, *iChat* includes the usual dose of gratuitous eye-candy, in the form of video effects that allow you to distort your video image or add background scenery, such as the Eiffel Tower.

Skype's outstanding feature is its ability to make voice calls to landline phones or mobiles. It also provides special telephone numbers so people can call your Mac from an ordinary phone, and voicemail to record messages. *Skype* is very useful for small businesses and self-employed people, but *iChat* is the most fun.

RESULTS	
Adium	★★★☆☆
AIM	★★☆☆☆
Apple iChat	★★★★☆
Microsoft Messenger	★★☆☆☆
Skype	★★★★☆
Yahoo! Messenger	★★☆☆☆



All six programs in this test offer additonal extras, but *iChat*'s video effects are great fun.

AND THE WINNER IS | Skype

To be honest, your choice of instant-messaging program will often depend on the programs that are used by your friends or business colleagues. If all your friends are using Microsoft *Messenger*, for example, then it makes sense to use the Mac version of Microsoft *Messenger* when you want to chat with them.

Even so, when it comes to text messages, *Adium*'s ability to communicate with all the main messaging programs – both PC and Mac programs – with equal ease makes it far and away the most versatile option for text messaging. It's certainly the best choice for text fiends who use messaging programs on a daily basis, and we look forward to the day when the developers manage to add audio and video options to *Adium*, too.

Your choices for audio and video chat are more limited, as only *iChat* and *Skype* work well here. If you mostly need to chat with other Mac users then there's no reason to use anything other than *iChat*. It's easy to use, and features such as its four-way video-conferencing option are unmatched by any of its rivals. However, *iChat* is disappointingly limited when it comes to communicating with people who use PCs. This is where *Skype* pulls ahead, as its Mac and Windows versions provide complete cross-platform compatibility. Other features, such as the program's ability to create audio conference calls with up to 25 people, will appeal strongly to business users, while the ability to make cheap telephone calls will be useful for home users and business users alike.

So while *iChat* is the best – and most fun – option for Mac-to-Mac communication, *Skype* is the winner in terms of all-round features and its ability to communicate with both Macs and PCs.

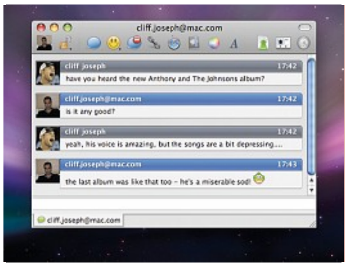
FINAL VERDICT

★★★★½

"With great Mac-to-PC compatibility, video and audio chat options, and cheap telephone calls, *Skype* is our winner!"

02:17 | Call with Cliff
More
Mac FORMAT Winner

INSTANT MESSENGERS


cliff.joseph@mac.com

cliff joseph 17:42
have you heard the new Anthony and The Johnsons album?

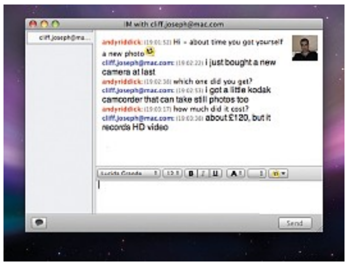
cliff.joseph@mac.com 17:42
is it any good?

cliff joseph 17:42
yeah, his voice is amazing, but the songs are a bit depressing....

cliff.joseph@mac.com 17:43
the last album was like that too – he's a miserable sod!

Adium 1.3.2

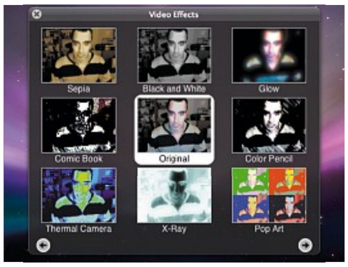
★★★☆☆


IM with cliff.joseph@mac.com
cliff.joseph@ma...
Lucida Grande
Send

andyriddick: (19:01:53) Hi – about time you got yourself a new photo
cliff.joseph@mac.com: (19:02:22) i just bought a new camera at last
andyriddick: (19:02:38) which one did you get?
cliff.joseph@mac.com: (19:02:53) i got a little kodak camcorder that can take still photos too
andyriddick: (19:03:17) how much did it cost?
cliff.joseph@mac.com: (19:03:36) about £120, but it records HD video

AOL Instant Messenger 1.0

★★☆☆☆


Video Effects
Sepia
Black and White
Glow
Comic Book
Original
Color Pencil
Thermal Camera
X-Ray
Pop Art

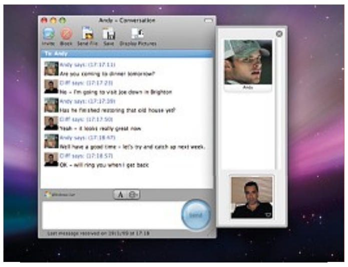
Apple iChat 4.0

★★★★☆

SPECIFICATIONS

Price	Freeware (donations welcome)	Free	Free
Download URL	www.adiumx.com	www.aim.com	Included in OS X
System requirements	Mac OS X 10.4 or above	Mac OS X 10.4.8 or above	Mac OS X 10.5 (10.4 includes *iChat 3.0*)
Windows version available?	No	Yes	No
Compatibility with other chat programs/protocols	Works with all major IM programs	*iChat*	*AIM*, *Jabber*
Import contacts from Address Book?	Yes	No	Yes
Text chat?	Yes	Yes	Yes
Audio chat?	No	No	Yes
Video chat?	No	No	Yes
Group chat?	Text only	Text only	Text, audio and video
Record chat sessions?	Yes	No	Yes
Voice calls to telephones	No	No	No

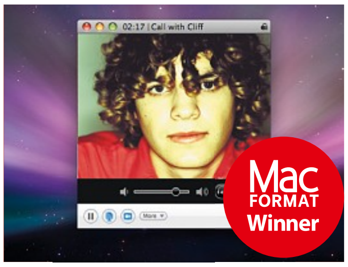
INSTANT MESSENGERS


Andy – Conversation
Invite
Block
Send File
Save
Display Pictures
To: Andy
Andy
Send

Andy says: (17:17:11)
Are you coming to dinner tomorrow?
Cliff says: (17:17:23)
No – I'm going to visit Joe down in Brighton
Andy says: (17:17:39)
Has he finished restoring that old house yet?
Cliff says: (17:17:50)
Yeah – it looks really great now
Andy says: (17:18:47)
Well have a good time – let's try and catch up next week.
Cliff says: (17:18:57)
OK – will ring you when I get back
Last message received on 29/1/09 at 17:18

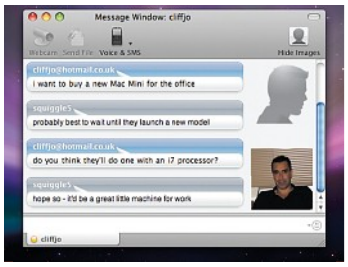
Microsoft Messenger 7

★★★☆☆


02:17 | Call with Cliff
More
Mac FORMAT Winner

Skype 2.7

★★★★½


Message Window: cliffjo
Webcam
Send File
Voice & SMS
Hide Images
cliffjo

cliffjo@hotmail.co.uk
i want to buy a new Mac Mini for the office

squiggle5
probably best to wait until they launch a new model

cliffjo@hotmail.co.uk
do you think they'll do one with an i7 processor?

squiggle5
hope so – it'd be a great little machine for work

Yahoo! Messenger 3.0

★★★☆☆

SPECIFICATIONS

Price	Free	Free	Free
Download URL	www.microsoft.com/mac	www.skype.com	http://messenger.yahoo.com/mac/
System requirements	Mac OS X 10.4.9 or above	Mac OS X 10.3.9 or above	Mac OS X 10.4 or above
Windows version available?	Yes	Yes	Yes
Compatibility with other chat programs/protocols	N/A	N/A	Microsoft *Messenger*
Import contacts from Address Book?	No	*Address Book* and Microsoft *Entourage*	No
Text chat?	Yes	Yes	Yes
Audio chat?	Corporate accounts only	Yes	Yes
Video chat?	Corporate accounts only	Yes	Yes
Group chat?	Text only	Text and audio	Text only
Record chat sessions?	No	Text, audio and video	No
Voice calls to telephones?	No	Yes – requires additional fees	No

★★★★★ Buyers' guide

Sponsored by
THE CHEAPEST & BEST PLACE TO BUY A MAC!
This is... computer warehouse
"My best buddy"
YOUR CHANCE TO SAVE £££s!
☎ 0208 400 1234
computerwarehouse.co.uk
Authorised Reseller

How to buy a Mac

Not sure which Mac to buy? Follow our advice and make the right choice

The big news this month is that the 13-inch white MacBook has seen some pretty-decent spec updates without any price increase. While the processor speed has fallen slightly to 2.0GHz (from 2.1GHz previously) this is more than made up for by the improved graphics card (an NVIDIA GeForce 9400M, as opposed to the previous integrated Intel GMA X3100, which was much slower) and the RAM has been upped to 2GB as opposed to 1GB previously. Remaining at a respectable £719 it's the entry-level MacBook of choice for many.

If you have more money to spend on a MacBook then January saw the introduction of the new and improved 17-inch MacBook Pro, which joins the already-great family of laptops and desktops from Apple. The 17-inch MacBook Pro has a stunning eight-hour battery life, making it the longest-running Apple laptop by far. While Apple laptops are the most popular Macs, it's worth considering whether you need a desktop or a laptop before you make your purchase, and we're here to help. Just turn the page to see the complete range of Macs that are available.

DID YOU KNOW?

Apple's new glass Multi-Touch trackpad lets you pinch, rotate and swipe, through photos in *iPhoto*

Making your mind up

All Macs come with at least Intel Core 2 Duo chips, meaning that whichever Mac you choose you know it will be powerful. So now you need to choose whether you need a laptop or a desktop. If you work on the move then a laptop is the best option, although these do have small screens and fiddly keyboards. And they

> "All Macs come with at least Intel Core 2 Duo chips, meaning that whichever Mac you choose you know it will be powerful"

will cost you more than a Mac desktop, by quite a long way.

Laptop choice is between the MacBook Pro, MacBook and MacBook Air. The MacBook starts at £719 with the white 13-inch MacBook, and is great for less intensive work, such as the *iLife* apps. The aluminium 13-inch MacBook (starting at £929) has the same screen size but has a glossy screen (which some people prefer), a bigger hard drive and faster memory. The 2.4GHz model (at £1,125) has an even bigger hard drive (250GB) and an illuminated keyboard, so when the ambient light dims, the keys light up.

> "The 2.66GHz 17-inch MacBook Pro lasts up to eight hours on one charge, so it's even better for working on the move than ever before"

As its name suggests, the MacBook Pro, starting at £1,369, is for more processor-hungry work like video-editing or running 3D programs, as they run at higher speeds and have a faster hard drive. The new 2.66GHz 17-inch version now lasts up to eight hours on one single battery charge, so it's even better for working on the move than ever before. The MacBook Pro is great for designers needing that extra power and storage space. Finally, the thin and light MacBook Air lacks ports and a built-in DVD drive, but it's ideally suited to a regular business traveller who takes advantage of wireless networking. While there is no CD/DVD drive included, an external SuperDrive will only set you back £64.

The MacBook Pro is available in two 15-inch configurations with either 2.4 or 2.53GHz processors, and there's a 17-inch 2.5GHz version, too. And you can now upgrade the 2.53GHz Pro to 2.8GHz for an extra £206. The MacBook and MacBook Air only come with 13-inch screens.

DID YOU KNOW?

Apple's new aluminium MacBooks lack a FireWire port, but you still get one on the cheaper £719 white MacBook

Mac desktops

If a laptop isn't for you, you have the choice of a Mac mini, iMac or Mac Pro. If you're on a budget or desk space is limited, go for a Mac mini. For £391 you get a 1.83GHz machine with a Combo Drive, or a 2.0GHz mini with a SuperDrive for £488. You will need to provide your own monitor, keyboard and mouse though.

The iMac comes in four flavours: 20-inch 2.4GHz, 20-inch 2.66GHz, 24-inch 2.8GHz or 24-inch 3.06GHz, from £782. These all-in-ones now have the power to almost rival a Mac Pro, although for really intensive work you will need to buy Apple's high-end Mac. With a basic spec of one quad-core 2.8GHz Intel Xeon processor, there's nothing you can't throw at a Mac Pro. With numerous configuration options, you can be sure that the Mac you order is built to your requirements. Prices start from £1,399, but with the option of 32GB RAM upgrades and larger hard drives, you could spend an absolute fortune. If you opt for a Mac mini or Mac Pro, you'll need a display, and Apple's Cinema Displays are ideal, with the 20-inch version at £391 or the 30-inch HD Cinema Display at £1,173.

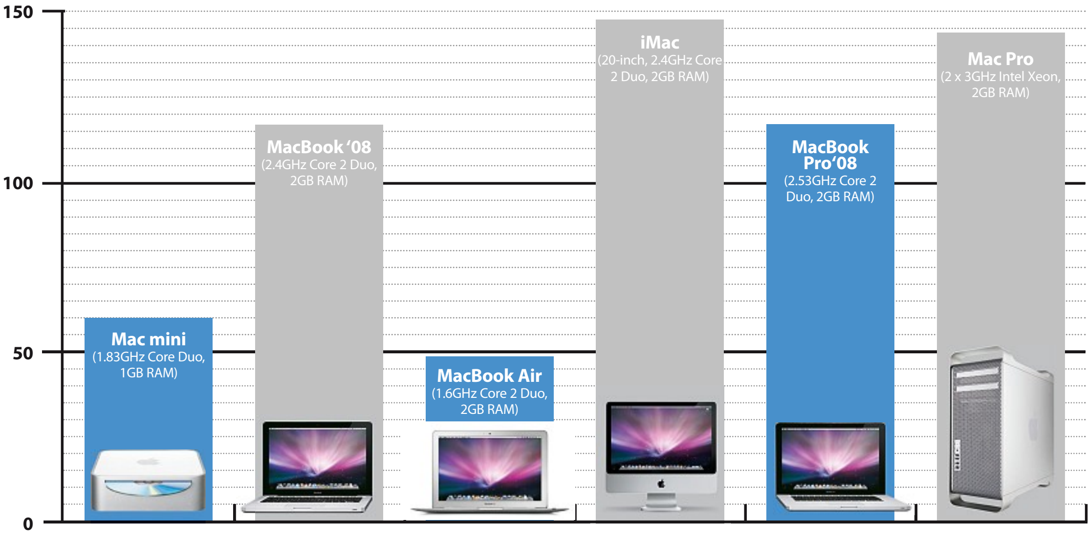
All Macs come with Mac OS X 10.5 Leopard and the new *iLife '09* suite. ●

BENCHMARKS | Which Mac is fastest?

We've used Xbench (www.xbench.com) to compare Apple's latest Macs. We've taken its overall score on each Mac as a rough guide to its overall system performance and speed. Please remember that this result is only an indication of the system's overall performance, and doesn't take into account some aspects, such as the improved 3D graphics capabilities of the new aluminium MacBook and the even better 3D graphics performance of the new MacBook Pro.

THE RESULTS (Xbench)

Mac mini	**67**
MacBook	**127.49**
MacBook Air	**49.68**
iMac	**146**
MacBook Pro	**129.1**
Mac Pro	**140.45**



Your choice of Apple gear

Let us help you make the right purchase

Sponsored by
THE CHEAPEST & BEST PLACE TO BUY A MAC!
This is... computer warehouse
"My best buddy"
YOUR CHANCE TO SAVE £££s!
Authorised Reseller
☎ 0208 400 1234
computerwarehouse.co.uk

iMac

Updated April 2008

20-inch 2.4GHz

£782

2.4GHz Intel Core 2 Duo

1GB memory

250GB hard drive

8x double-layer SuperDrive (DVD±R DL/DVD±RW/CD-RW)

ATI Radeon HD 2400 XT with 128MB memory

Built-in iSight video camera

AirPort Extreme

Bluetooth 2.0 + EDR

Ships with Mac OS X Leopard, *iLife '08, Front Row, Photo Booth*, Mighty Mouse and keyboard, Apple Remote

⊕ **Great value**

⊖ **Bigger HD would be nice**

20-inch 2.66GHz

£929

2.66GHz Intel Core 2 Duo

2GB memory

320GB hard drive

8x double-layer SuperDrive (DVD±R DL/DVD±RW/CD-RW)

ATI Radeon HD 2600 PRO with 256MB memory

Built-in iSight video camera

AirPort Extreme

Bluetooth 2.0 + EDR

Ships with Mac OS X Leopard, *iLife '08, Front Row, Photo Booth*, Mighty Mouse and keyboard, Apple Remote

⊕ **2GB memory**

⊖ **Wired mouse and keyboard**

24-inch 2.8GHz

£1,125

2.8GHz Intel Core 2 Duo

2GB memory

320GB hard drive

8x double-layer SuperDrive (DVD±R DL/DVD±RW/CD-RW)

ATI Radeon HD 2600 PRO with 256MB memory

Built-in iSight video camera

AirPort Extreme

Bluetooth 2.0 + EDR

Ships with Mac OS X Leopard, *iLife '08, Front Row, Photo Booth*, Mighty Mouse, keyboard & Apple Remote

⊕ **Impressive specification**

⊖ **£34 extra to go wireless**

24-inch 3.06GHz

£1,359

3.06GHz Intel Core 2 Extreme

2GB memory

500GB hard drive

8x double-layer SuperDrive (DVD±R DL/DVD±RW/CD-RW)

NVIDIA GeForce 8800 GS with 512MB memory

Built-in iSight video camera

AirPort Extreme

Bluetooth 2.0 + EDR

Ships with Mac OS X Leopard, *iLife '08, Front Row, Photo Booth*, Mighty Mouse, keyboard & Apple Remote

⊕ **Fastest ever iMac**

⊖ **Could spend loads upgrading**

MacBook Pro

Updated January 2009

15-inch 2.4GHz

£1,369

15.4-inch LED-backlit glossy widescreen 1,440x900 pixels

2.4GHz Intel Core 2 Duo 3MB shared L2 cache

2GB (2x 1GB DDR3 SDRAM)

250GB, 5,400rpm Serial ATA

SuperDrive 8x (DVD±R DL/DVD±RW/CD-RW)

NVIDIA GeForce 9400M + 9600M GT with 256MB GDDR3 memory

Precision aluminium unibody

OS X Leopard and Apple Remote

1x FireWire 800, 2x USB 2.0 ports

⊕ **Great new aluminium body**

⊖ **Screen still small**

15-inch 2.53GHz

£1,712

15.4-inch LED-backlit glossy widescreen 1,440x900 pixels

2.53GHz Intel Core 2 Duo 6MB shared L2 cache

4GB (2x 2GB DDR3 SDRAM)

320GB, 5,400rpm Serial ATA

SuperDrive 8x (DVD±R DL/DVD±RW/CD-RW)

NVIDIA GeForce 9400M + 9600 GT with 256MB GDDR3 memory

Precision aluminium unibody

OS X Leopard and Apple Remote

1x FireWire 800, 2x USB 2.0 ports

⊕ **Improved HD space and RAM**

⊖ **Upgrade options could cost**

17-inch 2.66GHz

£1,949

17-inch Hi-Resolution glossy widescreen 1,920x1,200 pixels

2.66GHz Intel Core 2 Duo with 6MB shared L2 cache

4GB (2x 2GB DDR3 SDRAM)

320GB 5,400rpm Serial ATA

SuperDrive 8x (DVD±R DL/DVD±RW/CD-RW)

NVIDIA GeForce 9400M + 9600 GT with 512MB GDDR3 memory

Precision aluminium body

OS X Leopard and Apple Remote

1x FireWire 800, 3x USB 2.0 ports

⊕ **8 hours wireless productivity**

⊖ **Puts a big dent in the wallet**

Mac Pro

Updated January 2008

One 2.8GHz Quad
£1,399

- One 2.8GHz Quad-Core Intel Xeon
- 2GB (2x1GB) RAM
- ATI Radeon HD 2600 XT 256MB GDDR3
- 320GB 7,200-rpm Serial ATA 3Gb/s
- One 16x SuperDrive
- Mac OS X Leopard
- Apple Mighty Mouse
- Apple Keyboard
- 5x USB ports
- 2x FireWire 400 ports
- 2x FireWire 800 ports

⊕ **Great value for money**
⊖ **Could spend loads upgrading**

Two 2.8GHz Quad
£1,712

- Two 2.8GHz Quad-Core Intel Xeon
- 2GB (2x1GB) RAM
- ATI Radeon HD 2600 XT 256MB GDDR3
- 320GB 7,200-rpm Serial ATA 3Gb/s
- One 16x SuperDrive
- Mac OS X Leopard
- Apple Mighty Mouse
- Apple Keyboard
- 5x USB ports
- 2x FireWire 400 ports
- 2x FireWire 800 ports

⊕ **Great configuration options**
⊖ **Upgrade options tempting**

Two 3GHz Quad
£2,202

- Two 3.0GHz Quad-Core Intel Xeon
- 2GB (2x1GB) RAM
- ATI Radeon HD 2600 XT 256MB GDDR3
- 320GB 7,200-rpm Serial ATA 3Gb/s
- One 16x SuperDrive
- Mac OS X Leopard
- Apple Mighty Mouse
- Apple Keyboard
- 5x USB ports
- 2x FireWire 400 ports
- 2x FireWire 800 ports

⊕ **Two 3GHz Quad processors!**
⊖ **Too many upgrade choices?**

Two 3.2GHz Quad
£2,701

- Two 3.2GHz Quad-Core Intel Xeon
- 2GB (2x1GB)
- ATI Radeon HD 2600 XT 256MB GDDR3
- 320GB 7,200-rpm Serial ATA 3Gb/s
- One 16x SuperDrive
- Mac OS X Leopard
- Apple Mighty Mouse
- Apple Keyboard
- 5x USB ports
- 2x FireWire 400 ports
- 2x FireWire 800 ports

⊕ **The fastest Mac ever**
⊖ **Do you really need it?**

Mac mini

Updated August 2007

1.83GHz 80GB
£391

- 1.83GHz Intel Core 2 Duo
- 1GB memory
- 80GB hard drive
- 2MB shared L2 cache
- Intel GMA 950 graphics processor with 64MB of DDR2 SDRAM
- Combo drive (DVD-ROM/CD-RW)
- AirPort Extreme
- Bluetooth 2.0 + EDR
- Ships with Mac OS X Leopard, *iLife '08*, Apple Remote and DVI to VGA adaptor

⊕ **Excellent value for money**
⊖ **Poor for 3D graphics**

2.0GHz 120GB
£488

- 2.0GHz Intel Core 2 Duo
- 1GB memory
- 120GB hard drive
- 4MB shared L2 cache
- Intel GMA 950 graphics processor with 64MB of DDR2 SDRAM
- Double-layer SuperDrive (DVD+R DL/DVD±RW/CD-RW)
- AirPort Extreme, Bluetooth 2.0 + EDR
- Ships with Mac OS X Leopard, *iLife '08*, Apple Remote and DVI to VGA adaptor

⊕ **More hard drive space**
⊖ **Still not ideal for gamers**

MacBook Air

Updated October 2008

13-inch 1.6GHz
£1,271

- 13.3-inch LED-backlit glossy widescreen 1,280x800 pixels
- 1.6GHz Intel Core 2 Duo processor
- 2GB DDR3 SDRAM
- 120GB 4,200-rpm SATA hard drive
- Built-in 802.11n WiFi and Bluetooth 2.1 + EDR
- NVIDIA GeForce 9400M with 256MB shared DDR3 SDRAM
- Mac OS X Leopard
- 1x USB 2.0 port
- Micro DVI port
- MagSafe power adaptor

⊕ **Thintastic!**
⊖ **SuperDrive is an extra £65**

13-inch 1.86GHz
£1,761

- 13.3-inch LED-backlit glossy widescreen 1,280x800 pixels
- 1.86GHz Intel Core 2 Duo processor
- 2GB DDR3 SDRAM
- 128GB solid-state drive
- Built-in 802.11n WiFi and Bluetooth 2.1 + EDR
- NVIDIA GeForce 9400M with 256MB shared DDR3 SDRAM
- Mac OS X Leopard
- 1x USB 2.0 port
- Micro DVI port
- MagSafe power adaptor

⊕ **Great lower price!**
⊖ **Still needs extras**

MacBook

Updated January 2009

13-inch white 2.0GHz
£719

- 13.3-inch glossy widescreen, 1,280x800 pixels
- 2.0GHz Intel Core 2 Duo
- 3MB shared L2 cache
- 2GB RAM (2x DDR2 SDRAM)
- 120GB Serial ATA, 5,400rpm
- SuperDrive 8x (DVD±R DL/DVD±RW/CD-RW)
- NVIDIA GeForce 9400M with 256MB shared DDR3 SDRAM
- Built-in iSight video camera, AirPort Extreme and Bluetooth 2.0
- OS X 10.5 Leopard

⊕ **Great value, has FireWire port**
⊖ **Looks out of date**

13-inch 2.0GHz
£929

- 13.3-inch LED-backlit glossy widescreen 1,280x800 pixels
- 2.0GHz Intel Core 2 Duo
- 3MB shared L2 cache
- 2GB RAM (2x DDR3 SDRAM)
- 160GB Serial ATA, 5,400rpm
- SuperDrive 8x (DVD±R DL/DVD±RW/CD-RW)
- NVIDIA GeForce 9400M with 256MB shared DDR3 SDRAM
- Built-in iSight video camera, AirPort Extreme and Bluetooth 2.0
- OS X 10.5 Leopard

⊕ **Stunning new look**
⊖ **No FireWire port**

13-inch 2.4GHz
£1,125

- 13.3-inch LED-backlit glossy widescreen 1,280x800 pixels
- 2.4GHz Intel Core 2 Duo
- 3MB shared L2 cache
- 2GB RAM (2x DDR3 SDRAM)
- 250GB Serial ATA, 5,400rpm
- SuperDrive 8x (DVD±R DL/DVD±RW/CD-RW)
- NVIDIA GeForce 9400M with 256MB shared DDR3 SDRAM
- Built-in iSight video camera, AirPort Extreme and Bluetooth 2.0
- OS X 10.5 Leopard

⊕ **Illuminated keyboard**
⊖ **MacBook Pro only £250 more**

> "The iPod touch is in another league. It has a generous screen, and paired with Apple's Multi-Touch gesture-based interface, it's a joy to use"

How to buy an iPod

The iPod family has never looked better; we help you find *your* ideal model

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Which iPod you choose depends a lot on what kind of person you are; there is no 'best' model. If your music library is small – look at the bottom of your *iTunes* window when you're clicked on Library – you can probably get away with a cheaper device, but if you have a generous collection you'll need to make some tough choices, especially now that Apple has announced new prices and new looks.

While most of us regularly listen to only a fraction of our music – something facilitated by the use of Playlists and Smart Playlists, and the iPod shuffle's Autofill – many prefer being able to carry their whole collection with them. If you have a large library, the only practical choice if you're one of the latter types is the iPod classic; it's the only iPod in Apple's current line-up to use a hard disk rather than flash-based storage, and while this does come at the expense of resilience – anecdotally at least, most iPod repairs are necessitated by a failed hard disk – you get phenomenal bang for buck. The new 120GB iPod classic is 21 times cheaper per GB than the entry-level 1GB iPod shuffle.

The best compromise is the new-look iPod nano. The tall, slimline nano has a 2.5-inch diagonal screen, which is still too small to watch anything more than a music video or video podcast, but it's crisp and detailed, and the improved 8GB and 16GB capacities are sufficient for many. The choice of colour now is vast, and there's defintitely a nano for everyone. These are going to be big sellers!

The iPod touch is in another league altogether. It has a generous screen, and paired with Apple's innovative Multi-Touch gesture-based interface, it's a joy to use. It boasts WiFi, can browse the web and manage email. It can run third-party apps, available from the App Store, and its new, low price makes it great value. See the box opposite for a comparison with the iPhone. ●

DID YOU KNOW?

The various iPod flavours represent almost three-quarters of the market; Microsoft's Zune has 2.6%

iPod classic

Updated September 2008

iPod classic 120GB

£175

Up to 30,000 songs
Up to 25,000 photos
Up to 150 hours of video
Available in black and silver
2.5-inch screen
320x240 pixels
Battery lasts up to 36 hours (audio)
Battery lasts up to 6 hours (video)
103.5x61.8x10.5mm
140g

iPod shuffle

Updated September 2008

iPod shuffle 1GB

£31

Up to 240 songs
No ability to display photos or videos
Available in silver, blue, green, pink and (PRODUCT) RED
No screen
Battery lasts up to 12 hours (audio)
27.3x41.2x10.5mm
15.6g

iPod shuffle 2GB

£44

Up to 500 songs
No ability to display photos or videos
Available in silver, blue, green, pink and (PRODUCT) RED
No screen
Battery lasts up to 12 hours (audio)
27.3x41.2x10.5mm
15.6g

iPod touch

Updated
September
2008

iPod touch 8GB

£165

Up to 1,750 songs
Up to 10,000 photos
Up to 10 hours of video
Available in black
3.5-inch screen
320x480 pixels
WiFi (802.11b/g)
Nike + iPod support
Battery lasts up to 22 hours (audio)
Battery lasts up to 5 hours (video)
110x61.8x8mm
120g

iPod touch 16GB

£214

Up to 3,500 songs
Up to 20,000 photos
Up to 20 hours of video
Available in black
3.5-inch screen
320x480 pixels
WiFi (802.11b/g)
Nike + iPod support
Battery lasts up to 22 hours (audio)
Battery lasts up to 5 hours (video)
110x61.8x8mm
120g

iPod touch 32GB

£283

Up to 7,000 songs
Up to 25,000 photos
Up to 40 hours of video
Available in black
3.5-inch screen
320x480 pixels
WiFi (802.11b/g)
Nike + iPod support
Battery lasts up to 22 hours (audio)
Battery lasts up to 5 hours (video)
110x61.8x8mm
120g

AT&T 3G
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Calendar
Photos
Camera
YouTube
Stocks
Maps
Weather
Clock
Calculator
Notes
Settings
iTunes
App Store
Phone
Mail
Safari
iPod

iPhone 3G

Updated
June
2008

iPhone 3G 8GB

From £FREE + contract

Up to 1,750 songs, 10,000 photos, or 10 hours of video
Available in black
3.5-inch screen
320x480 pixels
WiFi (802.11b/g)
Quad-band GSM, tri-band 3G
Assisted GPS
Bluetooth 2.0 + EDR
Battery lasts up to 24 hours (audio)
Battery lasts up to 7 hours (video)
Battery lasts up to 10 hours (talktime)
300 hours (standby)
115.5x62.1x12.3mm
133g

iPhone 3G 16GB

From £FREE + contract

Up to 3,500 songs, 20,000 photos, or 20 hours of video
Available in black or white
3.5-inch screen
320x480 pixels
WiFi (802.11b/g)
Quad-band GSM, tri-band 3G
Assisted GPS
Bluetooth 2.0 + EDR
Battery lasts up to 24 hours (audio)
Battery lasts up to 7 hours (video)
Battery lasts up to 10 hours (talktime)
300 hours (standby)
115.5x62.1x12.3mm
133g

iPod nano

Updated
September
2008

iPod nano 8GB

£107

Up to 2,000 songs
Up to 7,000 photos
Up to 8 hours of video
Available in silver, black, purple, blue, green, yellow, orange, pink and PRODUCT (RED)
2-inch diagonal screen
320x240 pixels
Battery lasts up to 24 hours (audio)
Battery lasts up to 4 hours (video)
90.7x38.7x6.2mm
36.8g

iPod nano 16GB

£146

Up to 4,000 songs
Up to 14,000 photos
Up to 16 hours of video
Available in silver, black, purple, blue, green, yellow, orange, pink and PRODUCT (RED)
2-inch diagonal screen
320x240 pixels
Battery lasts up to 24 hours (audio)
Battery lasts up to 4 hours (video)
90.7x38.7x6.2mm
36.8g

iPHONE vs iPOD TOUCH: HOW DO THEY DIFFER?

Of course, the iPhone is also a fantastic iPod – Steve Jobs called it the best iPod Apple has ever made. At 8GB, 16GB and 32GB, it's not particularly capacious, which is annoying as the glorious 3.5-inch screen just calls out for you to load it up with bulky video files. So far, so identical to the iPod touch, but there are some key differences .

The obvious one, of course, is that the iPod touch doesn't have the ability to make calls. Fair enough, you might think, but remember that this also means that, unlike with the iPhone, iPod touch users won't have access to the internet – browsing, updating weather and stock widgets and sending and receiving email – when out of range of a WiFi hotspot.

The payoff (literally) is that while an iPhone will cost you at least £30 a month for 18 months, you only need to pay for the iPod touch itself.

You do miss out on some stuff – the touch lacks the iPhone's (admittedly pretty crappy) camera, though the second generation model does at least have a low-powered speaker and physical volume controls, both of which it originally lacked.

The updated iPhone 3G is not only faster than the original – twice as quick in Apple's testing – but it also includes proper GPS; the iPod touch can only triangulate from WiFi nodes.

Finally, iPod touch owners usually have to pay for software upgrades, too, something iPhones get for free.

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NetGear Powerline XE102	£26	£29.90
Apple Time Capsule 500GB	£155	£178.25
LaCie Little Disk 320GB	£52	£59.80
Western Digital MyBook Essential 1TB	£95	£109.25
Iomega Iomega MiniMax 500GB	£65	£74.75
LaCie 500GB Quadra (quad interface)	£105	£120.75
LaCie Mobile Rugged 500GB	£109	£125.35
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KEYBOARDS & MICE

Apple Keyboard ★★★★★

ISSUE 187

Price: £27
Web: www.apple.com/uk
Full review: www.techradar.com/53747
Key specs: 2x USB 2.0 ports; slimline at 11x1x33cm; requires Mac OS X 10.4.10

⊕ Superslim; faster USB ports; easy to keep clean; comfortable to use; sleek design
⊖ May prefer wireless version that's also available

"The Apple keyboard is sleek, ergonomic and now has extra keys. Once you've tried this you'll never go back to your old keyboard."

Apple Wireless Keyboard

★★★★★

Price: £45 **Reviewed:** Issue 189
Full review: www.techradar.com/53760
Key specs: Bluetooth; Exposé/Dashboard shortcuts; thin

⊕ Stunning; wireless; easy to type on; compact
⊖ Needs Mac OS X 10.4.10 to work

Microsoft Mobile Memory Mouse 8000

★★★★★

Price: £40 **Reviewed:** Issue 190
Full review: www.techradar.com/217353
Key specs: Wireless; 1GB memory; RF and Bluetooth

⊕ Innovative cable design; rechargeable; 1GB storage
⊖ Odd acceleration behaviour

PRINTERS

Canon PIXMA iP100 ★★★★★

ISSUE 199

Price: £108
Web: www.canon.co.uk
Full review: www.techradar.com/414281
Key specs: 9,600x2,400dpi resolution; 2kg; 322x185x61.7mm; USB 2.0, Bluetooth, PictBridge interfaces; borderless printing (A4, 13x18cm, 10x15cm, credit card)

⊕ Compact; excellent results; strong build
⊖ Lack of camera card slots

"A rather pricey entry from Canon, but one that also offers excellent quality prints for photos and documents."

HP Photosmart A618

★★★★★

Price: £81 **Reviewed:** Issue 183
Full review: www.techradar.com/58073
Key specs: Three-colour inkjet; 4,800x1,200dpi

⊕ Good price; great prints; built-in bluetooth
⊖ Bit slow

Canon PIXMA iP450

★★★★½

Price: £80 **Reviewed:** Issue 202 (Christmas gift guide)
Full review: www.techradar.com/58866
Key specs: 9,600x2,400dpi; duplex option

⊕ Fast printer; good, vibrant results
⊖ Nothing

DISPLAYS

Apple Cinema Display ★★★★★

ISSUE 152

Price: From £391
Web: www.apple.com/uk
Full review: www.techradar.com/225702
Key specs: Size: 20-inch or 30-inch screen, Native resolution: 1,920x1,200, Colours: 16.7million colours, Video: DVI display, USB ports: 2, FireWire 400 ports: 2, VESA mount compatible

⊕ Superb image; even illumination; built-in hubs
⊖ No height adjustment

"Apple has really pulled off a trick with its range of Cinema Displays. Clarity, brightness, contrast and sharpness are all top-notch."

Sharp Aquos LC32X20E

★★★★★

Price: £532 **Reviewed:** Issue 194
Full review: www.techradar.com/256594
Key specs: 32-inch LCD TV; 1,920x1,080 res

⊕ Great Mac and TV picture quality; impressive specs
⊖ Need a lot of room to house it!

Apple 24-inch LED Cinema Display

★★★½

Price: £635 **Reviewed:** Issue 205
Full review: www.techradar.com/500220
Key specs: 24 inches; 1,920x1,200 pixels

⊕ Oozes quality all round
⊖ Only works with new MacBook family

SCANNERS/ALL-IN-ONES

Canon PIXMA MP620 ★★★★½

ISSUE 202

Price: £108
Web: www.canon.co.uk
Full review: www.techradar.com/477048
Key specs: Printer (9,600x2,400dpi, five-ink printing); scanner (2,400x4,800spi optical scanning); holds 150 sheets in rear tray and 150 in casette

⊕ Great print quality; easy to use; good value for money
⊖ WiFi needs to be set up over USB

"The mix of stellar print quality and intelligent design decisions means that the Canon MP620 all-in-one is a great buy."

Canon PIXMA MP610

★★★★★

Price: £87 **Reviewed:** Issue 186
Full review: www.techradar.com/203068
Key specs: Printer/scanner/copier; 2,400x9,600dpi

⊕ Lots of features; easy to use; cheap to run
⊖ Slow duplex printing

Canon PIXMA MX700

★★★★½

Price: £124 **Reviewed:** Issue 191
Full review: www.techradar.com/218276
Key specs: Printer, scanner, copier, fax, OCR

⊕ Good quality scans and prints; lots of features
⊖ No duplex

DIGITAL CAMERAS

Fujifilm FinePix F50fd ★★★★★

ISSUE 197

Price: £113
Web: www.fujifilm.co.uk
Full review: www.techradar.com/71926
Key specs: 12 megapixels; 35-1-5mm, f/2.8-8 lens system; 1/1.6-inch sensor size; 3x optical zoom; 8.2x digital zoom; image stabilisation; 25MB internal memory; 100-6,400 ISO range

+ Great value for money; top low-light performance; easy to use; looks good
− Guilty of over-sharpening fine detail

"This camera is a cracking all-rounder with superb low-light performance. The Fujifilm FinePix F50fd is £138 well spent."

Canon EOS 40D

★★★★★

Price: £560 **Reviewed:** Issue 188
Full review: www.techradar.com/69985
Key specs: 10.1MP; Digic III and 14-bit processing

+ Lots of megapixels; wider ISO range; useful extras
− Some idiosyncratic functions

Pentax Optio M50

★★★★½

Price: £82 **Reviewed:** Issue 197
Full review: www.techradar.com/414376
Key specs: 8MP; 5x optical/5.2x digital zoom

+ Easy to use; great picture quality; good price
− Slow lens; not great in low-light conditions

DIGITAL VIDEO CAMERAS

Samsung VP-HMX 20C ★★★★½

ISSUE 202

Price: £439
Web: www.samsung.com/uk
Full review: www.techradar.com/528224
Key specs: 2.7-inch widescreen LCD with touchscreen; movie capture at 2.1MP and still image at up to 4MP; HD lens delivering 10x optical zoom and 10x digital zoom; 80GB internal memory

+ Good screen; lightweight; offers full HD resolution
− Really need to shop around to find affordable price

"This lightweight Samsung HD camera captures high quality video and still images. Its 80GB internal memory is a real plus point."

Canon HV30

★★★★½

Price: £582 **Reviewed:** Issue 201
Full review: www.techradar.com/468942
Key specs: HDV; DIGIC II processor; MiniDV/SD card

+ Superb stills & video; better than HDD; fast imports
− Cumbersome to use

Canon HG10

★★★★½

Price: £559 **Reviewed:** Issue 190
Full review: www.techradar.com/216960
Key specs: HD format; 15hrs storage; 10x optical zoom

+ Superb images; native support for *iMovie '08*
− Some ergonomic mistakes; opaque menu system

ROUTERS/NETWORKING

Apple AirPort Extreme Base Station

ISSUE 181

★★★★★

Price: £116
Web: www.apple.com/uk
Full review: www.techradar.com/31026
Key specs: 165x165x34mm; 1x USB 2.0, 3x Ethernet, 1x WAN; 802.11n, 802.11a/b/g; WEP (40/128-bit), WPA, WPA2, MAC address filtering, NAT firewall

+ Easy disk mounting; 802.11n; huge range; up to 50 users
− UK restricted to 2.4GHz channel; no modem

"The AirPort Extreme Base Station enables easy Mac integration and provides a fast, secure wireless network setup in minutes."

Linksys Wireless-N Gateway WAG325N

★★★★★

Price: £65 **Reviewed:** Issue 185
Full review: www.techradar.com/31179
Key specs: ADSL 2+ support; 802.11g/802.11b

+ Great spec; easy to set up; good transfer rates
− Not the best looking device

Apple AirPort Express

★★★★★

Price: £62 **Reviewed:** Issue 195
Full review: www.techradar.com/311070
Key specs: 802.11a/b/g/n; WEP, WPA, WPA 2

+ Easy to set up; *AirTunes* is great; supports Windows
− Still need to add a broadband router

STORAGE

Iomega 500GB MiniMax ★★★★★

ISSUE 182

Price: £80
Web: www.iomega-europe.com
Full review: www.techradar.com/226173
Key specs: 500GB capacity; 3x FireWire 400, 3x USB 2.0 ports; up to 480MB/sec (USB 2.0) and 400MB/sec (FireWire 400) data transfer speeds; *Dantz Retrospect* backup software; FireWire 400 cable

+ Large capacity; doubles as USB/FireWire hub; perfect Mac mini shape; very fast
− Bit pricey

"The perfect companion to your Mac mini is now available with substantially improved capacity, offering superfast transfer speeds."

Iomega eGo Helium 320GB

★★★★☆

Price: £90 **Reviewed:** Issue 204
Full review: www.techradar.com/492523
Key specs: 320GB capacity; USB 2.0 interface

+ Pretty design; solid performance
− USB only; case scratches easily

Buffalo 500GB DriveStation Combo 4

★★★★☆

Price: £103 **Reviewed:** Issue 197
Full review: www.techradar.com/380224
Key specs: 1x USB 2.0; 2x FireWire 800; 1x FireWire 400

+ Lots of connection options; cheap;
− Can get hot; no LED indicator

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Apple Logic Studio 8.0	£235	£270.25
Apple Final Cut Studio upgrade from	£248	£285.20
Nikon D60 with 18-55mm lens	£320	£368.00
Canon EOS 1000D body	£285	£327.75
Nikon D90 body	£555	£638.25
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SPEAKERS

Ferguson Hill FH007 ★★★★★

ISSUE 186

Price: £391
Web: www.fergusonhill.co.uk
Full review: www.techradar.com/98316
Key specs: 2x high frequency horns; 2x bass speakers; 7Hz-20KHz (+/- 5dB); 8 ohms; 1x line in (stereo); 1x line in (stereo mini); 4x speaker outputs (mini); 1x subwoofer output; 4x 16W RMS

⊕ Great value; fabulous sound; easy to use and set up; stunning and strong
⊖ Take up lots of desk space

"The stunning-looking FH007 system from Ferguson Hill redefines the concept of multimedia speakers for your Mac."

Acoustic Energy Aego-M

★★★★★

Price: £126 **Reviewed:** Issue 191
Full review: www.techradar.com/100419
Key specs: Twin satellites and sub-bass; 90 RMS output

⊕ Look great; easy to use and set up; superb sound
⊖ Not many extra features

Dynaudio MC15

★★★★★

Price: £686 **Reviewed:** Issue 200
Full review: www.techradar.com/458611
Key specs: 55Hz-21KHz; 8 ohms; 2x50W RMS

⊕ Excellent sound; good design and build; easy setup
⊖ Expensive

DIGITAL MUSIC PLAYERS

Apple iPod nano ★★★★★

ISSUE 201

Price: 8GB, £98; 16GB, £148
Web: www.apple.com/uk
Full review: www.techradar.com/464874
Key specs: Silver, black, purple, green, orange, yellow, pink and PRODUCT (RED); 2-inch colour display; battery can provide up to 24hrs music playback or 4hrs video; 90.7x38.7x2mm; 36.8kg

⊕ Looks fab; great prices and capacities; vertical screen works well; accelerometer
⊖ No charging via FireWire

"A beautifully evolved music player that should delight everyone. The available array of colours with this version are gorgeous, too!"

Apple iPod classic

★★★★½

Price: £159 **Reviewed:** Issue 188
Full review: www.techradar.com/226641
Key specs: 120GB; black or silver; video playback

⊕ Phenomenal value; redesigned interface; good audio
⊖ Must re-buy purchased games

Apple iPod touch

★★★★½

Price: From £156 **Reviewed:** Issue 201
Full review: www.techradar.com/464926
Key specs: 8,16 and 32GB available; WiFi browsing

⊕ Great touchscreen; decent memory size; new apps
⊖ Not cheap!

iPOD ACCESSORIES

iSkin Cerulean TX+RX ★★★★★

ISSUE 193

Price: £91
Web: www.iskin.com
Full review: www.techradar.com/224088
Key specs: Turn iPod into a remote; 10m range; easy USB connection

⊕ Easy setup; wide signal range; great sound transfer
⊖ High price

"This great little accessory offers a very obvious improvement over the way people normally use iPod speakers."

Griffin Clarifi

★★★★★

Price: £22 **Reviewed:** Issue 202
Full review: www.techradar.com/476914
Key specs: iPhone 3G case; built-in macro lens

⊕ Macro lens for better quality close-ups; sturdy
⊖ Nothing

Macally TunePro Flat Panel

★★★★★

Price: £60 **Reviewed:** Issue 191
Full review: www.techradar.com/218943
Key specs: 33.5x11.5x13cm; 0.6kg

⊕ Great sound; good build; easy-to-slap snooze button
⊖ Remote sold separately

MAC ACCESSORIES

Pro-Ject Debut III ★★★★★

ISSUE 200

Price: £195
Web: www.project-audio.com
Full review: www.techradar.com/102079
Key specs: Phono/USB turntable with integrated MM phono pre-amp, gold-plated RCA phono sockets, digitisation of analog signals for recording to disk, dust cover, available in matt black and silver.

⊕ Outstanding sound; high build quality; update-ready and tweakable
⊖ Static crackle required codec update

"The Debut III Phono/USB turntable from Pro-Ject is an outstanding product –and that's before you've added a USB interface."

Line 6 Pocket Pod

★★★★★

Price: £60 **Reviewed:** Issue 200
Full review: www.techradar.com/457821
Key specs: 300+ presets; 16 effects; CD/MP3 jack

⊕ Portable; good price; fully Mac-compatible
⊖ Slightly clunky interface; lacks some pro functions

Imono HI-2503

★★★★★

Price: £17 **Reviewed:** Issue 200
Full review: www.techradar.com/458087
Key specs: Supports 2.5-inch IDE/SATA; USB 2.0

⊕ Cheap; efficient; easy to use; supports IDE and SATA
⊖ No protection from debris

HOME OFFICE

Apple iWork.com ★★★★★

ISSUE 205

Price: £FREE
Web: www.apple.com/uk
Full review: www.techradar.com/500393
System reqs: Any current web browser; Apple *iWork '09* needed to create documents to work on

➕ Cross-platform; easy to use; good integration with iWorkUpdate
➖ No synchronisation back to source; no creation or editing functions

"Apple's iWork.com is one of the easiest collaboration tools around, but lack of pricing makes it difficult to evaluate."

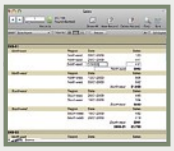
Scrivener 1.0

★★★★★

Price: $35 (£24) **Reviewed:** Issue 185
Full review: www.techradar.com/33080
System reqs: Mac OS X 10.4

➕ Reliable; great for writers; top export options
➖ Nothing

FileMaker Pro 10


★★★★★

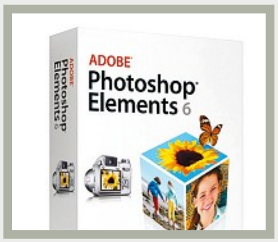
Price: £261 **Reviewed:** Issue 205
Full review: www.techradar.com/500402
System reqs: G4 or G5; 256MB RAM; Mac OS X 10.4.11

➕ Script triggers; customisable toolbar; built-in SMTP
➖ Lacks platform-specific look and feel

VISUAL TOOLS AND LAYOUT

Adobe Photoshop Elements 6 ★★★★★

ISSUE 194

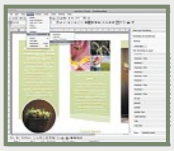


Price: £55
Web: www.adobe.com/uk
Full review: www.techradar.com/224437
System reqs: PowerPC G4, G5 or multicore Intel processor; OS X 10.4.8-10.5; 512MB RAM (1GB recommended); 64MB video RAM, 1GB available hard disk space; a DVD drive

➕ Nice new interface; Guided mode for beginners; Colour Curves is a move forward
➖ Layer Masks still tricky; small type on grey is hard to see; takes over entire screen

"Photoshop Elements 6 is insanely good value for money. It's worth every penny and great fun to use."

Live Interior 3D Standard 2.0


★★★★★

Price: $50 (£33) **Reviewed:** Issue 205
Full review: www.techradar.com/500278
System reqs: Mac OS X 10.4.8; 1GB HD space

➕ Lots of objects & materials; fast renders; good value
➖ Can't create furniture; some features only in Pro

Softpress Freeway Pro 5

★★★★★

Price: £123 **Reviewed:** Issue 195
Full review: www.techradar.com/311508
System reqs: Mac OS X10.4.11+

➕ Improved performance; great new Actions
➖ Single undos; lacklustre Graphics Actions

GAMES

Spore ★★★★★

ISSUE 201

Price: £29
Web: www.spore.com
System reqs: Intel Core Duo processor; 1.024MB RAM; Mac OS X 10.5.3; ATI X1600 or NVIDIA 7300 GT; 128MB VRAM; or Intel Integrated GMA X3100, 4.7GB HD space for installation

➕ Great looks; design your world; five great phases; variety of styles; accessible
➖ Too simplistic?

"Spore is an amazing experience painted on a huge canvas, but in broad, simplistic brush strokes. It's an amazing accomplishment."

Jade Empire: Special Edition

★★★★★

Price: £35 **Reviewed:** Issue 204
Web: www.bioware.com
System reqs: Intel Mac; 1GB RAM; OS X 10.4.11+

➕ Great story; fun combat; entertaining guests
➖ Relatively short

LEGO Indiana Jones

★★★★★

Price: £30 **Reviewed:** Issue 205
Web: www.ttgames.com
System reqs: Intel 1.8GHz; 512MB RAM; OS X 10.4.8

➕ Loads of levels; cooperative play; amusing in-jokes
➖ Awkward keyboard controls; formulaic

MULTIMEDIA SOFTWARE

Apple Logic Studio ★★★★★

ISSUE 189

Price: £312
Web: www.apple.com/uk
Full review: www.techradar.com/227009
System reqs: G4/G5 with 1.25GHz processor; 1GB RAM; Mac OS X 10.4.9+; 1,024x768 resolution screen; *QuickTime 7.2* or later; 7GB HD space; DVD drive

➕ Awesome power; sounds great; unbeatable value; intuitive new interface
➖ Old users may baulk at the new-look interface

"Apple Logic Studio is an amazingly comprehensive professional music package. And it's unbeatable value for Mac users."

Plasq Doozla 1.1

★★★★★

Price: $25 (£17) **Reviewed:** Issue 196
Full review: www.techradar.com/354362
System reqs: Mac OS X 10.4.6+

➕ Great layout; lots of fun for kids and adults; stable;
➖ Nothing at all

Apple iTunes 8

★★★★★

Price: £FREE **Reviewed:** Issue 201
Full review: www.techradar.com/468551
System reqs: Intel/PPC G3+; 512MB RAM; OS X 10.4.9

➕ Genius feature; HD movies on Store; Grid view
➖ Genius recommendations affect performance

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[2] Bristol & Bath MUG
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www.bbmug.co.uk

[3] Berkshire & North Hampshire MUG
Reading area
i.j.burn@reading.ac.uk

[4] Blackburn MUG
Blackburn
info@bmug.co.uk
www.bmug.co.uk

[5] Bracknell-Forest MUG
Bracknell, Berks
office@bfmuguk.org
www.bfmuguk.org

[6] ClubMac Ireland
Dublin
secretary@clubmac.ie
www.clubmac.ie

[7] Cork University College
Cork
d.murphy@cs.ucc.ie
www.ucc.ie/mug

[8] Cumbria Mac Enthusiasts
Barrow-in-Furness
CumbriaMacEnthusiasts@steel.clara.net
home.clara.net/steel/cme_home.htm

[9] Deaf Mac Users
Website group for the hard of hearing
nick@sturley.co.uk
http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/deaf-macs/

[10] Durham University MUG
Durham
durmac@durham.ac.uk
www.dur.ac.uk/durmac

[11] Edinburgh MUG
Edinburgh
admin@edmug.org.uk
www.edmug.org.uk

[12] Exeter Mac User Group
Exeter
examug@mac.com
www.examug.org.uk

[13] FAMUS (Fife)
Kirkcaldy
davidwlaw@btinternet.com
www.fifedirect.org.uk/FAMUS

[14] Glasgow MUG
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glas.mug@mac.com
www.glasmug.com

[15] Isle of Wight MUG
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[16] Kent & East Sussex MUG
Kent
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secretary@lmug.org
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Manchester
davjaeger@macunlimited.net

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simon.richards@manmug.co.uk

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oldgit@dircon.co.uk
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MUG OF THE MONTH

Midlands MUG

The Midlands Macintosh User group is a non-profit Mac user group run by and for Apple fanatics in the West Midlands, UK. They meet every month throughout the year, covering a range of topics from *iWork* and *iLife* to *Mac Basics* and *Logic*. The meetings are fun and informal with refreshments, a main presentation and even a raffle.

The group's meetings have recently been taking place at the Apple Store in Touchwood Centre (Solihull), and followed by a visit to the local Pizza Hut! At the time of writing the group had another meeting scheduled for 26 Feb at the Apple Store. Other meetings have also taken place at Trilby Multimedia (**www.trilby.co.uk**) located in the historic gun quarter of Birmingham.

The group has two types of membership. A pay-as-you-go membership, which requires a donation of just £3 per person (to cover costs) for that meeting, or an Annual Membership, which costs just £20 per year or £12 per year for Student/Unwaged/65+. Please note, in either case you must complete a membership form that's downloadable from the website. Membership entitles you to free entry to the meeting, refreshments, one raffle ticket per meeting, and enables you to post items for sale or items you're looking to buy, via the group's website.

To find out more visit the group online at **www.mmug.org.uk** ●

What is a User Group?

Come along and meet fellow Mac enthusiasts!

Mac User Groups are social clubs for Mac users. They offer an opportunity for Apple fans to meet each other and share their hobby. Activities vary from group to group, but typically they provide technical help, product demonstrations and the occasional guest talks from knowledgeable outsiders. **To find out more about User Groups in your area, visit www.macusersuk.org**

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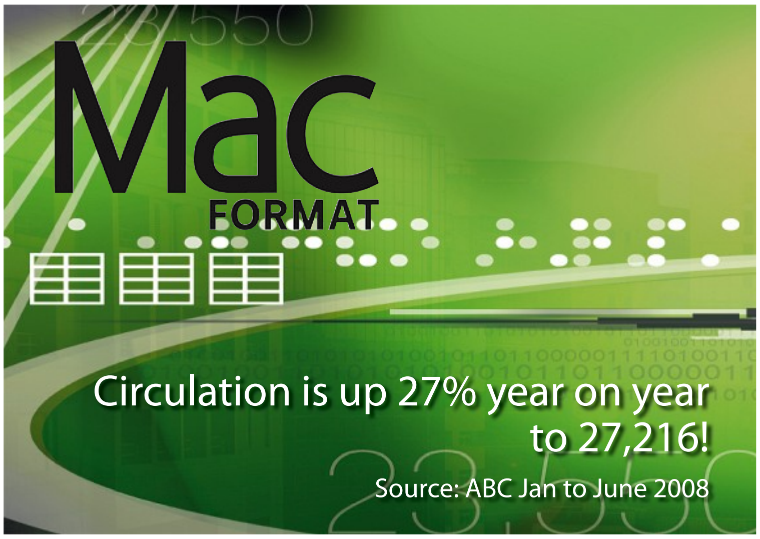

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Games

All your gaming needs covered for your Mac and your iPhone

SNIPPETS

iPhone a friend

Sports
Who bit Evander Holyfield's ear in a boxing match?
Mr. T
Jesse Ventura
Mike Tyson
0

iPod touch owners can now test their TV-related knowledge with this fact-packed quiz show. *TV Show King* looks suspiciously like a Nintendo Wii game but it's no less pretty for that. Costing a mere £2.99 it contains around 3,000 trivia questions relating to all your favourite TV shows. You can play on your own, pass it around the family or even play other folks online.

Monkey business

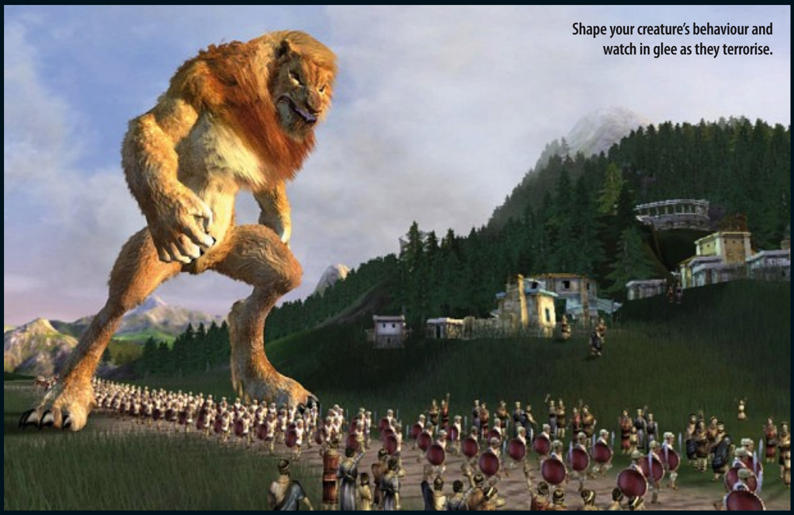
Anyone who enjoyed *World of Goo* might be interested in this little iPod touch gem. Rather than building structures out of wibbly-wobbly goo, here you have to construct bridges out of bamboo, coconuts and vines to help trapped monkeys. The outcome is the same though: the bridges are extremely precarious and it takes a lot of trial and error to get the job done. Good fun mind. Especially when you get 45 levels for 59p.

ONLINE STRATEGY

Black & White 2

OUT... SOON

Lionhead's God-sim sequel brings giant creatures to the Mac



Shape your creature's behaviour and watch in glee as they terrorise.

Just as we were going to press, we were lucky enough to be sent a review copy of Lionhead Studio's *Black & White 2.* So we thought we'd quickly whizz through the reasons you should come back here next month for a full dissection of the game.

Some animal lovers seem to deify their pets anyway so they will really go to town with this, a game in which gigantic creatures are the gods of the people (or at least the gods' representatives on earth).

Featuring the factions of the Greeks, Norse, Japanese and Aztecs it's up to the player to decide whether to conduct his civilisation in a good or evil way. Creatures can be assigned various roles. Free Will enables it to do what it likes using your teachings to guide its behaviour. The Entertainer role is useful for keeping villagers happy. A Builder helps out with construction, while a Gatherer collects resources. Finally, the Soldier assignation comes into play when it all goes wrong and you need to have a big fight.

> "You never know where your moral boundaries lie and how far you might be willing to go"

The player shapes his or her creature's character through wise teaching, rewarding good behaviour and punishing bad behaviour (or vice versa depending on which moral path you want to take).

As your village gains in power and prosperity, you can build your community into something rather more befitting a civilised society. Construct altars, taverns, graveyards and the like, moving up to temples, universities and amphitheatres. The better the building, the more resources it takes to build, but also the more Tribute you receive, Tribute being the currency of the gods, and the means by which miracles can be performed. Regular miracles include healing, lightning, fire and meteors. Alternatively, abuse your power with earthquakes, hurricanes and volcanoes. There are surefire ways to cement your good or evil status. It's all common sense really, but you never quite know until you play where you moral boundaries lie and how far you might be willing to go down any given route. So, if a bit of moral ambiguity is right up your Satan's Alley, meet us here next issue. ●

There ain't no fury like an uncivilised monkey scorned.

Dare you abuse your godly powers, with a natural disaster?

MASSIVE MULTIPLAYER ONLINE GAME

City of Heroes: Mac Special Edition

Mac FORMAT Choice ★★★★★

$20 (£14) Don boots, mask and cape in this straightforward but fun online game

CONTACT INFO

Developer Cryptic Studios
http://crypticstudios.com/
Vendor NC Software
www.cityofheroes.com/mac

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

Intel Core Duo Processor, 1GB RAM, Mac OS X 10.5.3 Leopard, 5GB of free hard drive space, ATI X1600 or NVIDIA 7300 GT with 128MB of Video RAM, or X3100 Intel integrated graphics chip, internet connection

FOR AND AGAINST

- ⊕ Good character creation
- ⊕ Fun combat
- ⊕ Interesting enemies
- ⊕ Nice storyline
- ⊖ Lacks depth
- ⊖ Graphically plain

VERDICT

★★★★★

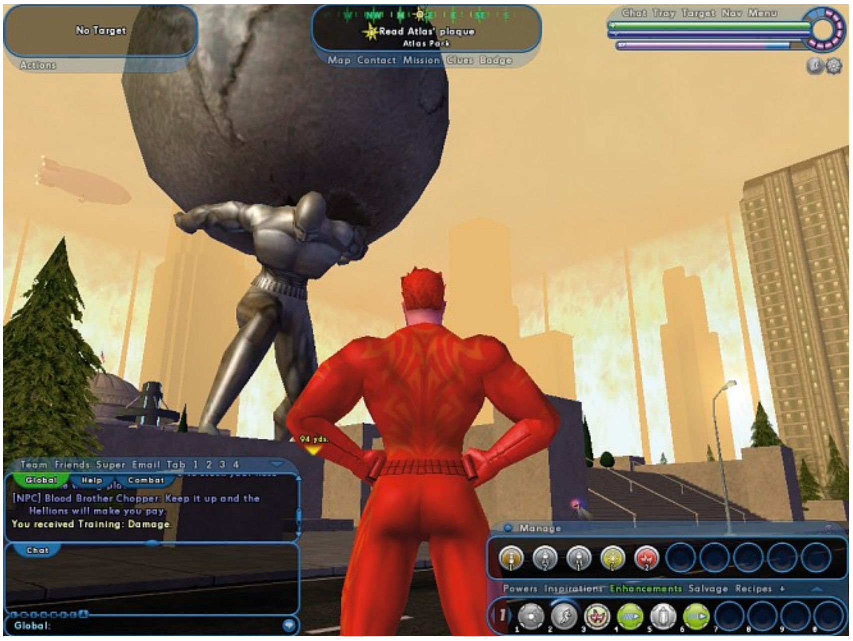
"An excellent online game. Not as rich as *WOW*, but the fun of playing a superhero simply cannot be overstated."

This particular title has been kicking around on PCs for a while now, but this Mac release is to be celebrated for two reasons. First, it's a good game, which should always be welcomed. Second, this edition features both the *City of Heroes* and *City of Villains* products, plus extra bonuses in the form of teleportation powers and extra costume options.

You've got the look

The idea of this massively multiplayer online game is similar to that of *World of Warcraft*, namely: that you take a user-generated character online embarking on heroic missions, gaining experience, levelling up to become more powerful and hooking up with other like-minded players. That's where we stop with the comparisons, because in *City of Heroes*, rather than playing the part of a sandal-wearing pointy-eared fantasy character, you get to don shiny outfits (complete with external pants) and take up the role of a comic-book hero. At which point it seems only fitting to cry "Vive La Difference", the catchphrase of legendary French superhero Le Fromage Mangeant Singe de Reddition.

To be honest, for any self-respecting comic-book fan, *City of Heroes* has you at 'hello'.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Manage
Powers Inspirations Enhancements Salvage Recipes

[NPC] Blood Brother Chopper: Keep it up and the Hellions will make you pay
You received Training: Damage

Our hero swots up on his superhero history. This statue is a tribute to the mighty Atlas. What a guy!

Even before you get to play the game, the character creation segment will make you secretly weep with joy. Naming your character is an almost religious experience; you'll spend an obscene amount of time trying to come up with a moniker that is just camp enough, but not so camp as to render your hero ridiculous. Whatever the name you settle upon, you then have to define the physical aspects of your hero. Is he massive and powerful, or diminutive and agile? Is she buxom and statuesque, or athletic and swift? And what of the costume? You can mess about with boots, pants, shirts, masks, facial tattoos, colour schemes and materials. It's a delightful process.

> "You can mess about with boots, pants, shirts, masks, facial tattoos, colour schemes and materials"

Having created a look, you then have to decide what type of hero you want to be. Five character classes are available including the Tanker (think The Thing) who's excellent at close-up combat, the Defender who provides a supporting and healing role (Jean Gray, maybe), and the Blaster who's excellent at long-range attacks (Cyclops, or Firestorm even). Each character class can then be assigned skills: in our case we opted to go nuclear and have radiation-based primary and secondary attacks.

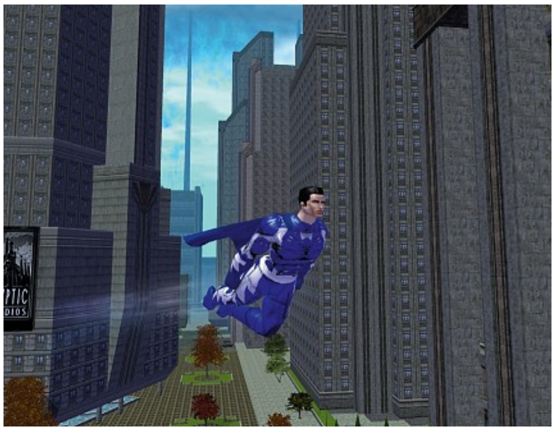
Once tooled-up with your basic abilities you can get on the streets and start fighting crime (assuming you're a hero, rather than a villain). The great thing about *City of Heroes* is that rather than starting off weak (as in *WOW*) and having to scrabble about collecting pelts and killing small animals, you start off pretty powerful and level up by sorting out bad guys right from the get go. As well as the missions you obtain from key figures in the game, you can also wander the city simply doing good deeds. Paragon City (where you begin) and later locations are littered with scumbags, who hang around in gangs mugging people, so you can wade in and sort them out gaining points, bonuses and respectability as you go.

Power up and sign up

Opt to carry out missions only and you'll find an intriguing narrative, which helps you gain combat experience and level up at a rate that enables you to handle the tasks doled out to you. As you become more powerful (adding multipliers to your basic powers and learning new abilities) you can adopt sidekicks and team up with other players forming *Justice League*-style collectives.

Signing up to a life of superheroism is fairly cheap at only $20 (£14) for a 30-day trial. Whether or not it's worth committing to an ongoing subscription we'll report back on that in a few months. ●

After earning your stripes running around everywhere, you might ultimately gain the ability to fly.



STRATEGY

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CONTACT INFO

Developer Virtual Programming
www.vpltd.com
Vendor Virtual Programming
www.vpltd.com

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

Intel or PPC G5, 512 MB RAM, Mac OS X 10.4.11 or higher, GeForce 5200, Radeon 9600 (not GMA950), 64MB VRAM, 1.6 GB hard disk space, broadband connection for internet play and product registration

FOR AND AGAINST

⊕ Plenty of missions
⊕ Good unit balance
⊕ Good tutorial
⊕ Multiplayer
⊖ Very ordinary visuals
⊖ Utterly bemusing and rubbish plot

VERDICT

★★★☆☆

"A fairly solid construction of strategy gaming but almost let down by its shaky foundations and some decidedly average looks."

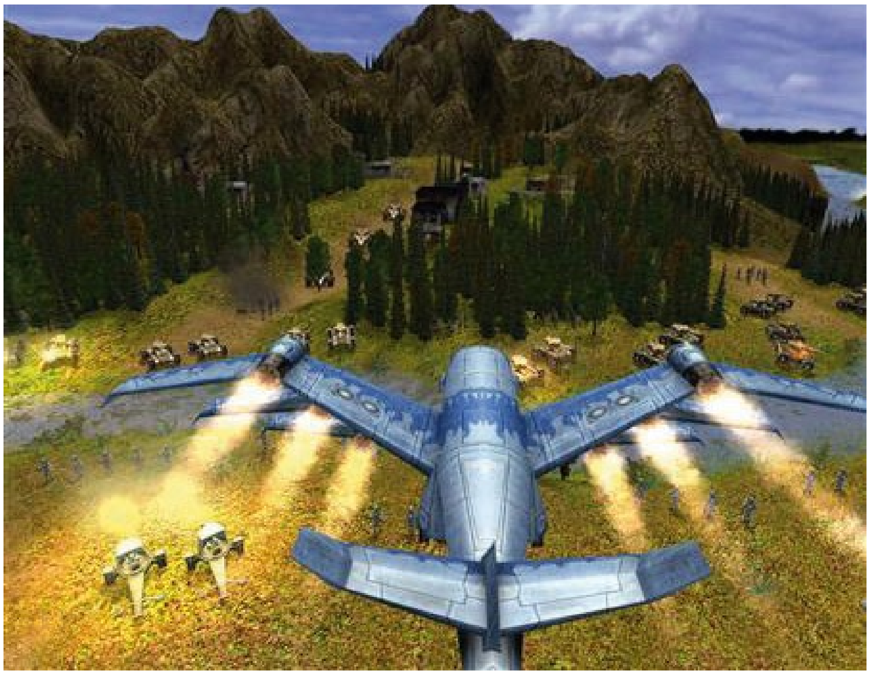
With all the fluffy shenanigans of recent action games like *LEGO Indiana Jones* and *Rayman Raving Rabbids* it's nice to get back to something with a bit of meat on its bones. A turn-based strategy game should do the trick. Ah look, here comes one now.

Don't get too excited though. *Galactic Assault* features a terrible storyline. A guy called Max, who enlists in a space exploration program is shot down over the planet Saraksh. Fair enough. But then things get a bit confusing because having found himself in the Land of the Unknown Fathers, a place run by a mind-control network, he proceeds to destroy the Central Broadcasting Station, which causes the area's inhabitants to fall into a coma, leaving them vulnerable to the armies of the neighbouring Khonties.

Hmm…

The plot thickens

It gets worse because even as we're trying to unravel that mess of a plot, we're then introduced to the fact that it's not just the Khonties who are after the Land of the Unknown Fathers, but also the Barbarians AND the Insular Empire, a section of society that, if its name makes any sense at all, actually has no right looking outside its own borders.



Chocks away. It's almost like a plane from Earth, only it's alien… but not very.

But that's just the back-story, we hear you cry, who cares? Well that's a very good point because it turns out that with a plot as shambolic as this, it's very hard to care about anything that goes on within the game. And that's a pity because the basic gameplay is actually pretty tidy.

> "After your training you'll be left in little doubt as to the strengths and weakness of your resources"

A good first step for a turn-based strategy game such as this is the inclusion of a decent tutorial mode. And this one is actually very useful, taking you through the tactical basics necessary to carry out a fully-rounded, tactically balanced campaign. After your solid training you'll be left in very little doubt as to the relative strengths and weaknesses of your various resources.

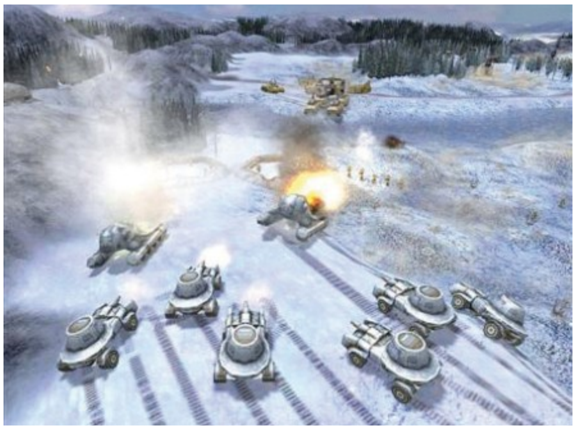
In fact, the accessibility of the gameplay (unlike the story) has feint echoes of *Advance Wars* on Nintendo's DS, in as much as the roles of the units are made clear from the start and the combat itself follows a similar turn-based formula (albeit with a third dimension). In any given combat phase the player can move his units, firing on the enemy if possible, making multiple attacks should they be available or entrenching in order to gain additional protection from attack. There's a decent amount of forces to play about with in *Land of the Unknown Fathers,* let alone having 26 different units to choose from. Tanks, anti-air tanks, infantry units, rocket launcher, attack chopper, marine units, bombers and recon units: you'll find every strategic eventuality is covered.

Apart from the combat basics, players are also called upon to manage troop transportation, enlist engineers to build bridges, aerodromes and roads; and capture or build bases in order to gain a strategic advantage or to earn extra revenue.

Causing a scene

There are 11 scenario types including the intriguingly named Abduction of Fire as well as Landing Troops, refuelling, Ambush, Secret Laboratory, Raid and so on. It's a relatively large game, in fact. The main campaign mode features 17 core mission as well as dozens of side-missions tailored to the individual factions. And this all takes place across 20 different maps. There are also 12 different types of deathmatch on, as well, as multiplayer options across LAN and internet. A sizeable undertaking, then. And it plays a decent game. But *Galactic Assault* lacks the spit and polish required to compete with the best in the strategy-game market. ●

The planet Saraksh doesn't grind to a halt after a few inches of snow.



ACTION RPG

Aquaria

Mac FORMAT Choice ★★★★★

$30 (£21) Submerge yourself in this enchanting underwater adventure

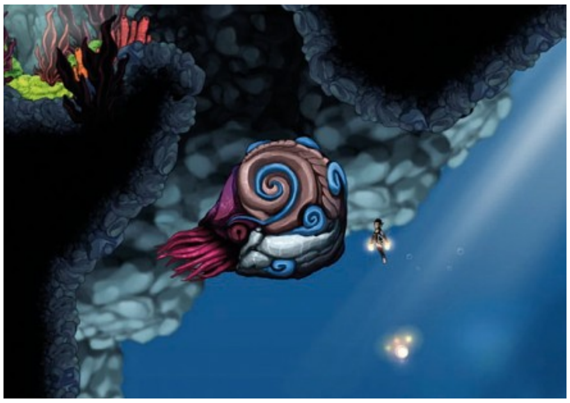
Ambrosia Software seems to have a knack of publishing more hits than misses, and their record remains good with the addition of *Aquaria*. This is a most beautiful and enchanting game that settles in the Action RPG category.

Taking control of Naija, a female aquatic humanoid creature, it quickly becomes apparent that she has lost her memory. Essentially, this leaves the player with a mystery that can only be solved by exploration. Soon we learn more about Naija and her home through visions and flashbacks.

We also learn that she has some remarkable abilities. Accessing a menu of mystic symbols, you can string notes together to achieve anything from creating a shield, procuring items from nearby plants, and changing your physical form in order to take on the game's more fearsome enemies. Combat constitutes the action part of *Aquaria's* experience playing more like a shoot-'em-up than an enemy encounter in a traditional RPG.

Handily, Naija is nifty with the pots and pans, able to combine ingredients that can perform a whole range of functions. Whip up a crab cake and you can increase Naija's defences. Gobble a Loaf of Life to combat poison. Maybe sup some soup to increase your offensive capabilities.

Swimming around Naija's world is a wonderful experience, but there are problems. The enormous (and inititially fun) play areas can become tiresome when you have to backtrack in order to relocate previously inaccessible parts. Add to that the fact the puzzles are sometimes tricky and you have a game that can leave you flailing around. However, if you don't mind the occasional lack of direction our advice is to dive straight in, the water's lovely. ●


Ooh what a pretty shell. Careful Naija, even the bad stuff's beautiful down here.

CONTACT INFO

Developer Ambrosia Software
www.ambrosiasw.com
Vendor Ambrosia Software
www.ambrosiasw.com

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

1.42GHz G4 or faster, or any Intel Mac, Mac OS X 10.3.9 or later, 234MB hard disk space

FOR AND AGAINST

⊕ Beautiful
⊕ Nice controls
⊕ Fun enemy encounters
⊕ Interesting abilities
⊕ Intriguing puzzles
⊖ A bit sprawling

VERDICT

★★★★★

"A large and engrossing adventure. The atmospheric underwater scenes and story make this game a truly enchanting experience."

ACTION RPG

Kivi's Underworld

$20 (£13) Dark Elves are threatening to wipe out the Lumen people. Pesky elves!

Soldak Entertainment's previous game, *Depths of Peril* was well received and on the back of that success this developer has launched its second game set in the *Depths of Peril* universe.

Kivi's Underworld is a traditional action RPG but it's more suited to RPG novices rather than hardcore gamers.

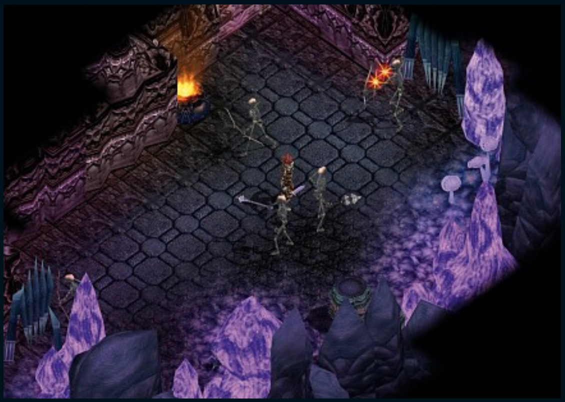
However, it's by no means a partial adventuring experience. Taking place over 30 large quests and featuring 20 playable characters this game will take considerable time and effort to complete.

Kivi is the hero who, when a mining expedition goes wrong, finds he has opened a portal through which Dark Elves can launch an attack on his people. Unfortunately Kivi's people (the Lumen) remain convinced that Dark Elves are a myth so the poor little guy takes on the task of defeating the threat all by himself.

Well, we say all by himself. As Kivi meets other characters and adds them to his party roster, the player can select them as playable characters, choosing appropriate ones for each subsequent quest.

Exploration and combat are effortless. As far as exploration goes just click the pointer where you want to go. If there's a door in the way, click to open it. If there's a trap, time your progress to avoid it. Things get more complex in terms of there being locked doors and secret passageways, but the controls, and the user interface remain simple. Combat involves little more than clicking on your enemy to unleash your attacks and hitting space to activate special abilities. This can be repetitive, but this is a game designed to be dipped in and out of, so it's not a problem.

It looks nice too, with detailed characters and pretty scenery. A quality helping of hack-and-slash for £13. ●


It's a pretty location, apart from the rotting hordes of undead who tend to hang around here.

CONTACT INFO

Developer Soldak Entertainment
www.soldak.com
Vendor Soldak Entertainment
www.soldak.com

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

1.5GHz processor (PowerPC or Intel), 128MB RAM, Mac OS X 10.4 or 10.5, GeForce 2 (or other equivalent), 150MB hard-drive space

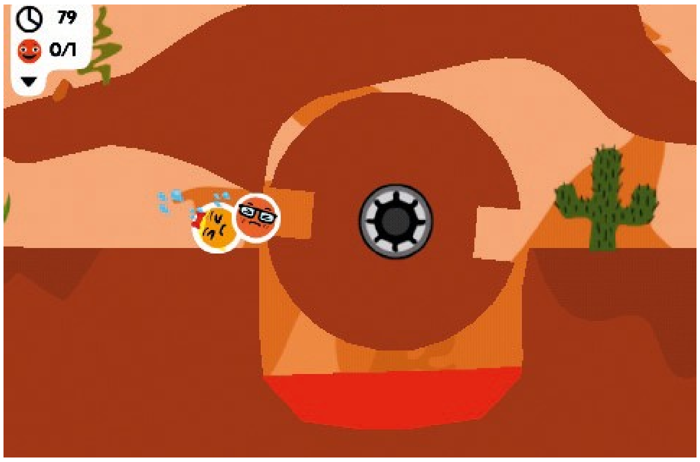
FOR AND AGAINST

⊕ Simple gameplay
⊕ Simple combat
⊕ Loads of quests
⊕ Lots of playable characters
⊕ Nice looks
⊖ A bit basic

VERDICT

★★★⯪☆

"A good RPG as long as you bear in mind its casual nature. Big and fun, this delivers a lot of gameplay for £13."



iPHONE/iPOD TOUCH: ACTION

Rolando

Mac FORMAT Choice ★★★★★

£3.49 A stroke of genius for the accelerometer

Looking remarkably like Sony's PSP title *Loco Roco*, *Rolando* is its own game and a very good one at that.

The aim is to save Rolandoland from peril by rolling its inhabitants (Rolandos) through various hazards. Rescue a certain number of Rolandos on each level and you progress to the next challenge.

As with *Loco Roco*, the key to Rolando's success is in its physics engine. The Rolandos roll about the landscape with the tilt of the iPod. Basic Rolandos go left and right and need a swipe of the screen in order to leap over obstacles, while Spikey Rolandos can roll across ceilings and vertical surfaces. The player has to reach and activate switches that open doors, release bombs and shove blocks into pits to create bridges.

Progression through the game's 36 levels requires concentration thanks to the complexity of the maps and levels (which, on completion, turn out to be simplicity itself – always the mark of a well-designed game).

While *Rolando* seems casual, it is also a triumph of good, old-fashioned, game design that will transport you to addiction without you realising it has sucked you in and made you a master of its internal prescript. Genius. ●

CONTACT INFO

Developer ngmoco
www.ngmoco.com
Available from the App store

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

25.1MB

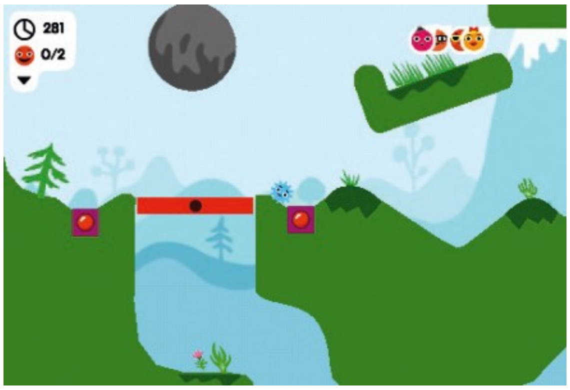
FOR AND AGAINST

- ⊕ A superbly designed game
- ⊖ Frustrating on later levels

VERDICT

★★★★★

"A visually beautiful and beautifully designed game. Cheap, cheerful, and wonderfully playable. Get it!"



Above: Quick wits and quick fingers will rescue you from any hazards.

Left: As cute as Rolando looks, it's a dangerously addictive genius of a game.

iPHONE/iPOD TOUCH: SHOOT-'EM-UP

Iron Man: Aerial Assault

£2.99 Nice suit. Have they got it in TK Maxx?

The financial commitment for games based on films for is often lower, with complexity being less of an imperative. This means this simplistic *Iron Man* spin-off is pretty good fun.

Part of the reason it works is down to the control system. *Iron Man* sees the hero, Tony Stark, flying into the screen, taking on enemies – from planes to attack drones. The player fights his way through by tilting the iPod touch in order to move Stark, with enemies being taken out simply by locking onto them, while others have to be shot manually.

It's very simple but it remains entertaining enough through its 12 levels, making it more than worth the asking price. ●

CONTACT INFO

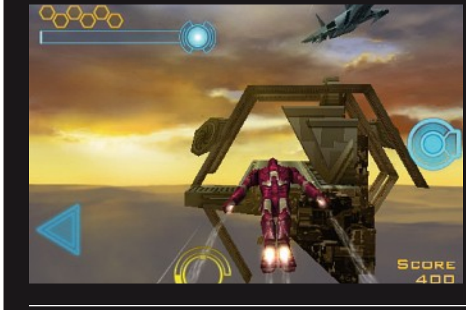
Developer Paramount Pictures
www.paramount.com
Available from the App store

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

iPhone 2.2 software
33MB

FOR AND AGAINST

- ⊕ Fun shooting action. Looks nice
- ⊖ Pretty basic



VERDICT

★★★☆☆

"*Iron Man* is cool and so is this game. Excellent controls, nice visuals and a very reasonable price tag."

Taking on enemies can be simple, even if they are disguised as pesky military vehicles.

iPHONE/iPOD TOUCH: PICK-'EM-UP

I Love Katamari

£4.99 Like a Dyson with even less loss of suction

Apple's little music and video machine is introducing casual gamers to all sorts of weird Japanese titles that were previously the preserve of hardcore game fans only.

I Love Katamari sees the protagonist, a prince, collecting junk. He does so by rolling a sticky ball around picking up stuff. Starting small, you collect pegs, dominoes and the like, before moving onto bottles and cartons, then small pets, furniture and, ultimately, buildings.

The game is basically a collect-'em-up in the style of the bonus levels in *Monkey Ball*, but the surreal premise and the physics make rolling a ball made up of domestic ephemera more challenging and compelling than you'd expect. ●

CONTACT INFO

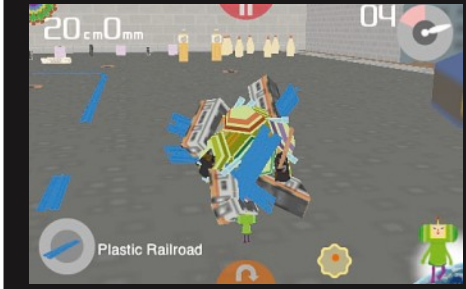
Developer Namco
www.namcogames.com
Available from the App store

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

iPhone 2.0 software
83.8MB

FOR AND AGAINST

- ⊕ Original, imaginative, mental
- ⊖ A bit slow and dull



VERDICT

★★★☆☆

"An odd game. But the originality and inventiveness is beyond question."

Addicted to tidying? No, neither are we, but you could be after a blast of *I Love Katamari*.

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> "Do you know where your local Apple reseller store is? You should. What's more, I think you should make all your Apple purchases from them."

Graham Barlow - Editor MacFormat

On your Disc

This issue's disc is packed with three full programs, games demos, 100 Flash templates and more

START HERE

Using the Disc

The *MacFormat* Disc comes with a superb interface menu that contains the serial numbers you'll need. Simply pop the disc into your drive, double-click the **disc** icon on your Desktop and a folder will open up. The next step is to double-click on the **MacFormat.osx** icon in order to launch the interface. Please be aware that *MacFormat* now supports OS X only, and that some programs may require internet registration to become fully functional. Full details are available on the disc interface.

Mac DVD
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Software
In the mag
Resources
Podcast

Start up the *MacFormat* disc interface for more details.

DISC PROBLEMS?

If you are having difficulties using the disc interface or content, please visit our reader support website at **www.futurenet.co.uk/support**, where you'll find solutions to many commonly reported problems. If you still have problems, email our reader support team at **support@futurenet.co.uk** or call 01225 442 244 and ask for coverdisc support.

We can only provide technical support for the installation of software. We cannot give in-depth help on the apps, your hardware or operating system. For software-related issues, please contact the product's developers. We are unable to provide serial numbers over the phone. We provide technical support for this disc for six months after this magazine's on-sale date.

Mac Disc
FORMAT
Issue 206 | April 2009
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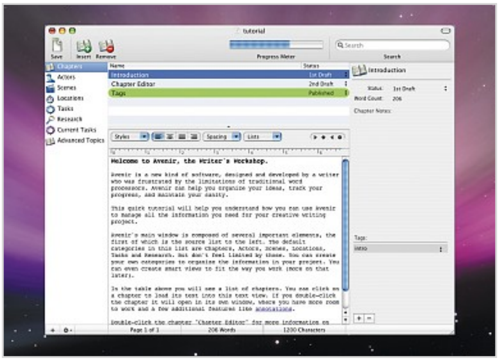
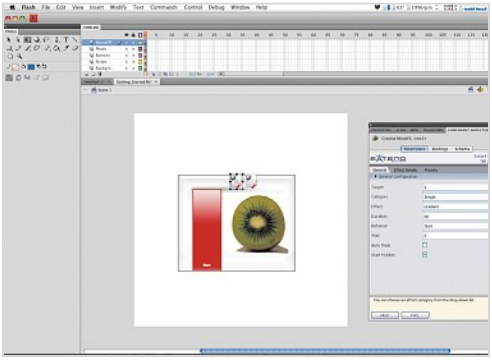

tutorial
Save
Insert
Remove
Progress Meter
Search
Chapters
Actors
Scenes
Locations
Tasks
Research
Current Tasks
Advanced Topics
Introduction
Chapter Editor
Tags
Welcome to Avenir, the Writer's Workshop.

If you're a creative writer, this full version of *Avenir* (recently renamed as *StoryMill*) will be of interest to you. Unlike a generic processor, it is designed to assist you with your workflow. Being built for fiction, you're able to manage the creative process by tracking, tagging and filtering characters, scenes, locations, research and more. In addition, there are tools such as word counting and a progress meter to help you meet your goals. You will need to be running Mac OS X 10.4 or later.

AS SOLD FOR £90

Creative MovieFX 1

Add effects to your Flash projects with this full program


Flash
File
Edit
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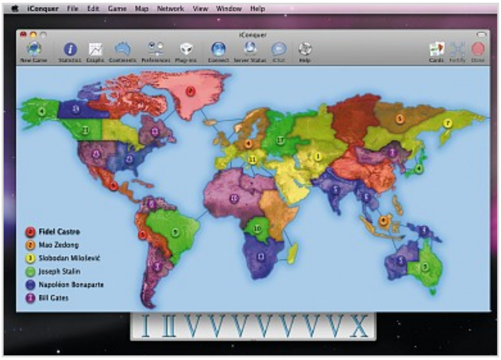
Insert
Modify
Text
Commands
Control
Debug
Window
Help

Creating all manner of effects in Adobe's flagship vector graphics suite can often require an MA in Physics, a programming degree and a great deal of patience. Fortunately, one of the features of *Flash* is its ability to allow third-party developers to design extensions that can be integrated into the user interface. This makes the learning curve less initimidating. One such extension is *Creative MovieFX* with around 70 effects. You'll need Mac OS X 10.1 or later and Adobe *Flash* CS3 or later.

AS SOLD FOR £9

iConquer 1.5

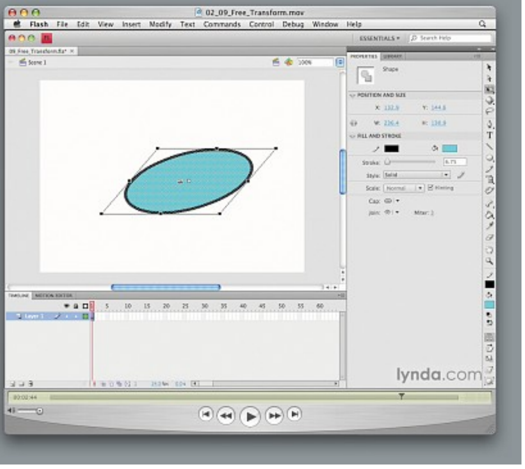
Take over the world with this full game


iConquer
File
Edit
Game
Map
Network
View
Window
Help
Fidel Castro
Mao Zedong
Slobodan Milošević
Joseph Stalin
Napoléon Bonaparte
Bill Gates

So, you've always fancied Ernst Stavro Blofeld's job as head of SPECTRE. Yet, that could jeopardise your acceptance within today's civilisation. Well, we have a virtual cure for any megalomania fantasies you may have. *iConquer* is a game that's sole purpose is to make the world yours and yours alone. It can either be played alone or by up to six players, with the aim of bringing all 42 countries on the map under your command. Mac OS X 10.4 or later is needed to run this game.

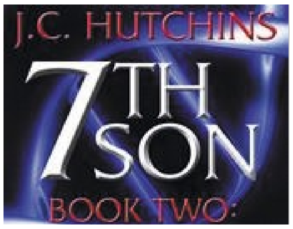
ENHANCE YOUR WEBSITE

Since its humble beginnings under the Macromedia banner, *Flash* has been a staple part of many leading websites. Other technologies have attempted to take its crown, but have fallen by the wayside, namely DHTML. Although .NET is starting to become a challenger to *Flash's* reign, especially in the guise of *Silverlight* that's seeing adoption by TV channels wanting to stream video to the masses. Back to *Flash*, just look at the pressure Apple are under to add its support to the iPhone, plus its necessity for browsing the web is obvious. So we're giving you some resources to help give your own web presence a *Flash*-enabled overhaul. There's a demo of *Flash* CS4, a full special-effects extension, video training and 100 templates.



ALSO ON THE DISC

Resources, audio podcasts and more!



AUDIO NOVEL

7th Son: Book Two

Listen to these spoken words

Deceit is the second instalment in our continued coverage of this fantastic three-part audio podcast trilogy, *7th Son*, from author J.C. Hutchins. Look out for the last part next issue.

FLASHMO.COM
Presentation Title goes here (Slide 1)

RESOURCES

Flash templates

100 basic sites

Simply open these files from **flashmo.com** up in the demo of *Flash* and you can start editing away. These templates make it incredibly simple to create your own website.

Welcome to OpenOffice.org

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Featured on this month's disc is the latest edition of the renowned open source collection of tools. Included are word processor, spreadsheet and presentation programs.

GAME DEMO

Kivi's Underworld

Hack and slasher

With *Kivi's Underworld* you can play as any number of characters as you explore the mysterious underworld. Choose to be a warrior, a fire mage, a scout, a berserker and more.

BBC World Service
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All your Apple needs
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MacFormat – This Week (Enhanced)

PODCAST

MacFormat This Week

Essential audio from the team

Once you've read the magazine, why not listen to our 30-minute broadcast from the 26 January? Be sure to subscribe on *iTunes* so that you don't miss out in the future.

SOFTWARE COLLECTION

Top freeware

This month's best apps

Here are more free tools to keep your Mac happy, in these financially uncertain times. Choose from word processor *Bean 2.1* to YouTube viewer *MacTubes 2.2*, and more.

DISC CONTENTS

Full apps, shareware, game demos and more

FULL SOFTWARE

Creative MovieFX 1
iConquer 1.5
Avenir 2.3.7

IN THE MAGAZINE

Cover feature

Accompanies feature on 25 new things to do with your Mac on page 28

Amadeus Pro 1.3.3
Audacity 1.3.6b
Business Card Composer
ChocoFlop 0.905
Comic Life 1.4.3
DiscLabel 5.4.1
djay 2.2.2
Mixxx 1.6.1
Nicecast 1.9.4
Pixen 3.1b
RapidWeaver 4.2.1
Rax 3.0rc1
Swift Publisher 2.3.1
WordPress 2.7
DeskCover 2.0
Desktopple 1.1
Hazel 2.2.4
Isolator 3.40b
iStat menus 1.3
iTunesMenu 0.2
Jumpcut 0.62

Reviews

BBEdit 9.1.1
iAntiVirus 1.3.3
Labels & Addresses 1.1
LittleSnapper 1.0.2
MacScan 2.6
Path Finder 5.0.6
Stationery Pack 2.2

Shareware reviews

I Love Stars 3.0
Mailplane 2.0.1
OSXP Folders 0.1
Paintbrush 2.0
PhoneView 2.1.2
PwdGen 1.2

Tutorials

Anxiety 1.0
Caffeine 1.0.4
Default Folder X 4.1.1

Widgets

Aquarium 0.1
QuickCal 1.2.1
Sunset 1.0
TweetGeek Social Network

Podcast

MacFormat This Week
26 January 2009

RESOURCES

Deceit audio book
Flash CS4 training
Flash templates

SOFTWARE

Games trials

Aquaria 1.1
Kivi's Underworld 1.0

Recommended

Creative MovieFX 2.0
Flash CS4 Professional
iConquer 2.4.6
OpenOffice.org 3.0.1
StoryMill 3.2.2

Top freeware

Bean 2.1
Dropbox 0.6.434
EverSave 1.0.1
FinderFileSizes 1.3
iCompta 3.1
iLeopard 2.1.2
MacTubes 2.2
Simplify Media 1.0.1
Tor 0.2.0.33
Transmission 1.50b3

READER OFFERS

Upgrade to StoryMill

Use your *Avenir* credentials to purchase *StoryMill* at a discounted rate of $20 (£13). You'll receive instructions on how to do this after registering *Avenir*. Details of this can be found on the disc interface.

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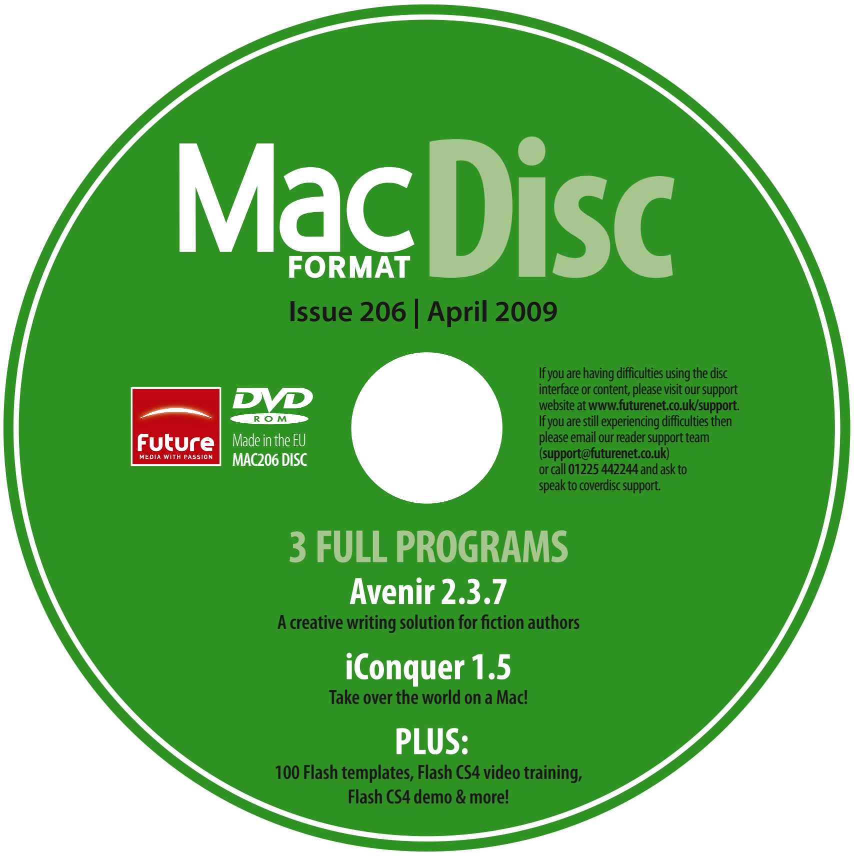

MacFormat Disc

Issue 206 | April 2009

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Interface

- Interface requires OS X.
- Some programs may require free registration over the internet or phone.
- Some software may not be available in all territories.
- Where relevant, program values quoted are prices when sold with original packaging and manuals.

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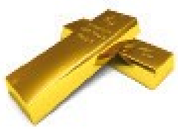

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